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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S A A 1
DISARMAMENT & SALT

U.S. PRESS REACTION TO PRAVDA ARTICLE ON SALT

LD141255Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Text] TASS--New York, 12 February--The article entitled "the Task of Limiting Strategic Arms: Prospects and Problems" published in PRAVDA has attracted great attention on the part of U.S. mass media. AP disseminated a detailed summary of the article, accompanying it with the following comment: The Soviet Union has stressed that it will not yield to the demands of U.S. opponents of detente who would like to make substantial changes to the emergent Soviet-U.S. SALT agreement. The Soviet Union is resolutely defending its viewpoint on questions that are giving rise to disagreements at the talks.

The USSR, UPI stresses, has declared that it does not agree with strategic arms limitation proposals that would give the United States one-sided advantages.

In the opinion of Western commentators, the New York TIMES writes, the PRAVDA article was prepared at the highest level. The article makes it plain that the Soviet Union rejects any attempt to bypass the accords already achieved.

The U.S. press notes that the article cites the statement made by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the eve of the new year of 1978 concerning the fact that there are good opportunities for carrying the talks through to a successful conclusion.

SOVIET DRAFT COULD FORM BASIS FOR BELGRADE DOCUMENT

LD141247Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Report by V. Zhuravskiy and B. Nikolayev: "At the Final Stage"]

[Text] Belgrade--Work continues in the editorial groups on the preparation of the final document of the Belgrade meeting of representatives of the countries which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The earlier exchange of views among the envoys of 33 European states, the United States and Canada on the implementation of the final act, the improvement of mutual relations among countries, the strengthening of detente and consolidation of security and cooperation on our continent showed the European peoples' determination to proceed further along the path initiated in Helsinki. During the exchange of opinions, the delegations had the opportunity to give a detailed description of their governments' positions and to submit definite proposals on easing international tension and clearing the storm clouds from the European sky.

As is noted in the corridors of the Sava Center, the venue of the Belgrade forum, the delegations of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have made a great contribution to its work with their constructive initiatives.

The Soviet delegation put forward a draft final document the day the final stage of the meeting began. It notes the very great importance of the understandings reached in Helsinki in 1975 and points out that the strict observance in international relations of the principles enshrined in the final act will continue to contribute to an improvement in the situation, the development of cooperation and the strengthening of peace in Europe. The successful implementation of the provisions of the Helsinki document requires increased efforts for the transformation of detente into a continuous and more viable and comprehensive process.

The Soviet draft calls for concrete and effective steps aimed at reducing military confrontation and promoting progress in the sphere of arms limitation and disarmament and for the implementation of a number of major all-European initiatives discussed at the Belgrade meeting--above all, the holding of interstate conferences on cooperation in the sphere of environmental conservation, energy, transport and also the further development of economic, trade and scientific and technical development. It expresses a readiness to continue to expand contacts in the humanitarian sphere in accordance with the final act.

For the purpose of the practical implementation of the final act the Soviet draft proposes that all the states which participated in the all-European conference should hold special consultations after the Belgrade meeting to examine available proposals which relate to questions of strengthening security and confidence-building measures in the military sphere and are intended to supplement political detente in Europe. The Soviet draft envisages that the next Belgrade-type meeting of representatives of countries which participated in the all-European conference will be convened in Madrid in 1980.

In conversation with us, the representatives of socialist and a number of other countries noted that the Soviet draft could serve as the basis for the creation of a positive and balanced final document in Belgrade.

In contrast to the constructive positions of the delegations from the Soviet Union and a number of other states, the U.S. representative and his colleagues have obstructed work throughout the meeting. The American diplomats have constantly tried to distract the forum from the discussion of the main problems facing the European peoples. U.S. delegation head A. Goldberg made every effort to turn the meeting into something resembling a trial of a number of countries on the false charge of "violating" human rights. And now certain representatives, including Goldberg, are insisting that the Belgrade document be devoted mainly to this problem of their contrivance.

The Belgrade forum has shown that the desire to use the Helsinki accords for selfish purposes and to interfere in other people's affairs is damaging the great and important cause which was initiated by the all-European conference. The Soviet Union and the other socialist states and the European public reject this approach.

The noble ambition to guarantee all the peoples of Europe the right to peace determines the Soviet position in Belgrade. From the very beginning the USSR has stood for the idea of a constructive meeting and is therefore making every effort to insure its positive conclusion. Broad strata of our continent's public support this ambition.

TASS Report

ID141940Y Moscow TASS in English 1841 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 14, TASS--The final document is being prepared at the meeting of representatives of states, participants in the European Security and Cooperation Conference. While the editorial group is working, unofficial consultations are held among delegations to reach agreements sooner. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries came out in favour of such a document of the Belgrade forum that would promote the consolidation of detente and filling it with new real contents. The Soviet draft document that was tabled immediately after the new year intermission emphasizes the need of effective steps aimed at lessening military confrontation in Europe and development of cooperation in the economic, humanitarian and other spheres.

But the delegations of the United States and some other Western countries, NATO members, blocked inclusion in the final document of constructive proposals of socialist and neutral countries, specifically the proposal not to use nuclear weapons in a first strike, the proposal on nonspread of NATO and Warsaw Treaty organizations (through admitting new members), on mutually refraining from production of neutron and nuclear charges, on freezing military budgets, etc. And it is precisely the adoption of such proposals that would go a long way toward promoting military detente and limitation of the arms race in Europe. Things went so far that in the recent days some representatives of NATO countries declared against inclusion of the final document of even those proposals that had been earlier agreed upon in the working bodies of the Belgrade forum.

POSSIBLE EXCHANGE OF SHCHARANSKIY, SOVIET AGENTS CONTEMPLATED

LD141729Y Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 12 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Unattributed report: "Moscow Prepared To Exchange Anatoliy Shcharanskiy for Chilean Prisoners"]

[Text] Berlin--According to very reliable East Berlin sources, the Soviet authorities have accepted the principle of exchanging the Jewish dissident mathematician Anatoliy Shcharanskiy for a number of Chilean communist leaders and Soviet agents presently imprisoned in West European countries. Negotiations toward carrying out this exchange have reportedly been held for the past 8 months between the Israeli deputy Samuel Flatto-Sharon and East German lawyer Wolfgang Vogel.

Although considerable progress has been made over the past few days the operation will still take some time to perform. In accordance with a principle laid down on previous occasions, the Soviet authorities in fact want Shcharanskiy to be brought to trial before the exchange. From information received in East Berlin it seems that the trial could take place in March. The dissident, who is accused of treason, faces a possible death sentence.

Moreover, the consent of those countries which hold prisoners of interest to the Soviets or their allies would still have to be obtained. In addition, it is not beyond possibility that a certain sum to be paid to the Moscow authorities in exchange for Shcharanskiy's release would have to be agreed between the USSR and the other countries.

SOCIALIST BLOC'S FOREIGN POLICY, DISARMAMENT EFFORTS HAILED

LD141133Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Noble Aims"]

[Text] The influence of the socialist community on the course of world events is growing constantly. The solution of the major foreign policy problems of significance to all mankind is inconceivable without their participation. The essence of the fraternal countries' foreign policy is the strengthening of peace and security, the safeguarding of the peoples' freedom and independence, peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous cooperation among states with different social systems.

Describing the current international situation in his report "Great October and Mankind's Progress," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, said: "In our ways the principles of peaceful coexistence have quite firmly taken root in international affairs as the only realistic and sensible principles. This is the result of change in the correlation of forces in the world--above all, the growing might and international authority of the Soviet country and the entire socialist community." The program of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the peoples' freedom and independence advanced by the 25th CPSU Congress and actively supported by the fraternal countries is being implemented successfully.

The effectiveness of the socialist states' foreign policy in the international arena has largely been conditioned by their unity and cohesion, their close and constantly strengthening cooperation and the coordination of their foreign policy. [paragraph continues]

The traditional friendly meetings of the fraternal parties' leaders held in the Crimea and exchanges of party and state visits are of great significance in this connection. Cooperation within the framework of CEMA and the Warsaw Pact yields good results.

The socialist community countries have done tremendous work seeking to achieve the restructuring of international relations in the direction of peace and security. As a result of the successful conclusion of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe the situation on this continent has improved to a considerable degree, which also has a positive influence on other regions of the world. Its initiators--the socialist states--are now making a tremendous effort to insure that the accords enshrined in the final act are filled with concrete material content.

The USSR and its friends and allies attach great significance to the Belgrade meeting of representatives of the states which participated in the all-European conference. It has now resumed its work, and its perceived task is to determine in a positive sense the further prospects for deepening detente.

Through their combined foreign policy efforts the fraternal countries are seeking to end the arms race, to secure universal disarmament and to supplement political detente with military detente. To this end the socialist states have launched many constructive initiatives. On the agenda of international life are, in particular, the proposals submitted at the session of the Warsaw Pact states' political consultative committee in Bucharest more than a year ago--proposals that all the participants in the all-European conference agree not to be the first to use nuclear weapons against each other and also that the number of members of the Warsaw Pact and the NATO military bloc not be expanded. Extreme importance is also attached to the new Soviet proposals that all states reach agreement on simultaneously ending production of nuclear weapons and also that a moratorium be declared on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes in addition to a ban on all nuclear weapon tests for a definite period.

The interests of strengthening peace demand concrete results and real steps in the matter of disarmament. It is precisely this that determines the Soviet Union's stand at the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms and the joint stand of the Warsaw Pact countries at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe.

The struggle for disarmament is a complex process. It is stubbornly opposed by the reactionary forces of the capitalist world. They are intensely whipping up the arms race and continuing to create new forms and types of weapons of mass destruction--such as the neutron bomb, which the United States intends to put into production and deploy on the territory of West Europe. While condemning these dangerous plans the fraternal countries realize that, if the plans of the U.S. militarist circles start being implemented, they will have to take appropriate measures. Replying to questions asked by a PRAVDA correspondent, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev warned that the USSR will be faced with the need to respond to this challenge with a view to insuring the security of the Soviet people and their allies and friends. But the Soviet Union does not want the arms race to rise to a new and still more dangerous level and therefore suggests to the states of the West that agreement be reached on mutually renouncing production of the neutron bomb in order to save the world from the emergence of new weapons of mass destruction.

Dictated by mankind's vital interests, the socialist countries' proposals meet with a broad response throughout the world. This was graphically manifested, in particular, at the 32d UN General Assembly session. At the suggestion of the Soviet Union it adopted the declaration on deepening and strengthening the relaxation of international tension, which reflected the peoples' will for peace and detente. The delegations of the socialist countries--Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland, the USSR and Czechoslovakia--submitted for consideration to the preparatory committee for convening the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament such important jointly prepared documents as the "Basic Provisions of the Declaration on Disarmament" and "Basic Provisions of the Action Program for Disarmament."

Closely coordinating their foreign policy actions, the countries of the socialist community--a new type of international alliance united on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism--consistently uphold the cause of peace and security and the fundamental interests of mankind.

WESTERN ANTICOMMUNIST ACTIONS LINKED BY 'SINISTER CHAIN'

LD141447Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Matveyev commentary: "They Have Learned Nothing"]

[Text] Outspoken statements by U.S. officials about their "opposition" to the participation of communists in the governments of West European countries have complicated the domestic political situation in Italy even further in connection with the government crisis which has arisen there. The protracted nature of the crisis itself attests to this.

Many politicians in West European countries who are a long way from feeling sympathy for the communists have condemned these U.S. statements as inadmissible interference in internal affairs. At the same time these statements were signals for reactionary circles in the West to galvanize their efforts aimed at pursuing the so-called "tension strategy" in the domestic policy sphere.

It is a question of schemes by those who, under the flag of the struggle against the "Red peril," would like to lead reprisals against all democratic forces and establish fascist systems.

The London OBSERVER wrote recently that as many as 115 different extremist organizations are operating in Italy and have adopted anticommunism as a weapon in conjunction with a gamble on terrorism. A certain R. Cavallaro, one of the ringleaders of the neofascist organizations in Italy, admitted in an interview with the magazine L'EUROPEO in the fall of 1974 that he and his confederates were preparing a putsch in the country. In his words, "one foreign secret service knew everything: that the NATO headquarters had been informed, that we had ground, air and naval means at our disposal...." The conspiracy was uncovered in time but, as this neofascist asserted, "In the event of new upheavals, the organization could again activate its network and groups."

And so the anticommunist statements of the U.S. politicians, the activity of the NATO staffs and the activeness of extreme rightwing groups and organizations not just in Italy but also in other West European countries all represent links in a single sinister chain.

According to press reports the leaders of the anticommunist lobby in the U.S. Congress have distributed among its members a "326-page report" couched in the most strident tones about the situation in various West European countries where, they say, "a communist threat" is emerging. [paragraph continues]

The supporters of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy, who used to search for communists under his bed, are still abundant, as can be seen, on Capitol Hill:

When acting as a "world policeman" in the recent past, U.S. ruling circles, as is known, did not cover themselves with glory. Nowadays this policy is all the more untenable and futile.

SOVIET OIL EXPERT SEES INCREASED WESTERN NEED FOR ARAB OIL

LD122100Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Talk by Soviet oil expert Boris Rachkov: "The West Cannot Dispense With Arab Oil"]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, Data on oil extraction in the nonsocialist world last year indicates a drop in the shares of the Arab and other OPEC member countries. Some Western papers try to interpret this as the beginning of the decline of OPEC. They also claim that the West will soon be able to dispense with Arab oil. In this respect Moscow radio presents a talk by Boris Rachkov, the well-known Soviet oil expert. He writes:

The level of oil extraction in the nonsocialist world rose last year by 6 percent over that of the preceding year. But the oil extraction level in the OPEC member-countries remained the same. Consequently, their share of the overall oil extraction in the nonsocialist world dropped by 0.4 percent. There were two reasons for this: First, the increase in oil production by the developed capitalist countries as a result of the increase in the exploitation of the North Sea and Alaska oilfields and second, the drop of oil production in those OPEC member-countries which had carried out a total nationalization of the imperialist oil companies. For these countries carried out a more precise evaluation of their natural wealth reserves. As a result of this, tangible measures were taken to exploit the natural wealth resources more rationally in order to avoid any premature exhaustion.

Algeria, Libya and Iraq, for example, have in recent years been extracting oil at more modest rates than in the days of the greedy imperialist monopolies.

But, says the Soviet expert Rachkov, those responsible for the bourgeois propaganda media rush to declare that the Western countries, through the development of their own oil resources, will in the near future dispense with their dependence on the oil of the Arab and other OPEC countries. In this regard, they count on achieving a great increase in oil extraction from the North Sea and Alaska. Yet even in the mid-80's, oil extraction in these areas will be only one-fourth of the oil extraction in the Arab countries.

The West's need for fuel, even with the austerity measures, will continue to increase. The estimates of the U.S. Department of Commerce indicate that this principal imperialist country will be obliged toward the end of the century to import between 350-400 million tons of oil annually. Where will it come from?

Firstly and principally, it will have to come from the OPEC countries. Hence the predictions of the Western bourgeois propaganda media about the decline of OPEC and about the Western ability to dispense with the oil of the OPEC countries are false.

But why did the Western propaganda media have to resort to such fabrications? It had to do so first to frighten the oil countries and weaken their struggle against the greedy oil imperialist monopolies and consequently force them to sell their oil at lower prices.

In conclusion, Soviet economic expert Boris Rachkov says that for this reason the imperialist oil monopolies are actively exploiting the rift within OPEC caused by Saudi Arabia and the UAE. These two countries, on the instigation of the West, are preventing OPEC from reaching agreement on fixing a price which would compensate for their losses from inflation and the fall of the dollar and the high cost of Western manufactured goods. This is yet another though not direct proof that the imperialist countries, particularly the United States, have an extremely great interest in the oil extracted by the Arab and other OPEC countries.

NATO EXPENDITURES BLAMED FOR INCREASED MILITARY TENSION

LD142130Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Vadim Nekrasov commentary]

[Text] Day after day the British and other Western media feature interviews, statements, reports or secret documents that are supposed to point to a Soviet military buildup far in excess of defense needs. There is no end to the clamor about a Soviet military threat and behind it Washington plays the dangerous game of forcing its allies to step up preparations for war. True enough, world tension continues to decline and the idea of peaceful coexistence among nations is gaining more and more followers. However, the process could go into reverse. Militaristic groups are doing all they can to make it do so.

The munitions industries, along with the military, keep pushing the world along the road of piling up arms. The greatest opposition to less tension comes from NATO. The organization's council and other top bodies have evolved a policy that has the one aim of preparing for another war in Europe. The NATO nations have greatly increased their military spending. Indeed their spending within NATO alone topped \$165 billion last year and this is expected to grow in the next few years. Britain too has been caught up in the race to spend more on armaments. Appropriations already total 7 billion pounds, which uses up about 5 percent of the gross national product, and if London continues to take instructions from NATO then this spending will mount steadily over the next few years.

Washington now interferes more energetically in the affairs of its allies than ever before and the meddling has largely to do with military policy. Since President Carter set the goal increasing the American military presence in Western Europe the Pentagon has grown still more active. Late last summer the United States announced a 3 percent increase in its military spending in NATO. In the course of the year 17,500 more United States land and sea forces were sent to Europe and the Mediterranean area and early this year President Carter promised to dispatch still more American forces in Europe, bringing the total up to 280,000.

The NATO summit held in London last May adopted a proposal of the United States that the member nations should prepare a long-term and a short-term program to increase NATO's military capability. These programs quite obviously conflict with the general trend in Europe toward greater friendly cooperation between the nations. At the center of the short-term program is an annual 3 percent growth in the military spending of the NATO countries over the next 5 years. This is a real increase, it takes into account inflation. The long-term program would cover 25 years, that is the rest of the 20th century. NATO strategists clearly do not consider the dominant trend today to be declining tension. They still think in terms of war.

What the NATO generals and their Pentagon instigators are doing threatens to produce another spurt in the arms race. They would long ago have stopped the decline in world tension if the balance of strength in the world were not what it is, if the socialist countries and other peaceminded states were not working energetically for peace and if there wasn't constant pressure from the world public, especially the groups that want to see greater peaceful coexistence between the nations. This is what makes the Assembly for Peace and Disarmament that has just been held in London so very significant. Because of all these peace forces in the world the international situation continues to bear the stamp of declining tension and a growing interest in peaceful coexistence.

GENERAL HAIG COMMENTS ON PRC, COMMUNISTS IN ITALY

LD102118Y Moscow TASS in English 2016 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

["Haig Finds Ally"--TASS headline]

[Text] Rome, February 10 TASS--When NATO generals set off on diplomatic voyages, their secret intentions and wishes frequently become obvious. Thus, supreme allied commander, Europe, General A. Haig, speaking in Rome, expressed his satisfaction with Peking's foreign policy course. He said that Western countries treat with understanding the benefits the present-day situation in China brings to them. Moreover, he is so much satisfied with the Chinese leadership's anti-Soviet stand and so highly appreciates "these benefits" that he deemed it possible to say, when answering the question of a CORRIERE DELLA SERA correspondent, that it is not without logic to say that China is the 16th member of the North Atlantic alliance. The NATO general thus blurted out his desire--he is quite willing to see China as member of his military grouping.

So much straightforward was also his statement about the present-day political situation in Italy. Speaking in Rome at a meeting with representatives of the American Club and the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy, the NATO general, having demonstrated that he is obviously at variance with the elementary norms of international relations, grossly interfered into internal affairs of that country. He said that participation of communists in the Government of Italy would have pernicious consequences for the Western alliance. He said bluntly that from the military point of view he would rather be concerned over such a development of events.

REASONS BEHIND MEETING OF WEST'S FINANCE MINISTERS NOTED

LD132002Y Moscow TASS in English 1941 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

["The Mirror of the Monetary Crisis"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 13, TASS--TASS economic commentator Sergey Stoklitskiy writes:

Everything indicates that the finance ministers of the "big five"--the USA, the FRG, the UK, Japan and France, had weighty grounds to give up their weekend and get together post-haste in Paris last Sunday to discuss urgent problems. Though the meeting, just as many previous get-togethers of this kind, was strictly confidential, and no communique was published afterwards, reports in the Western press suggest that the discussions concentrated on how to coordinate the West's monetary, financial and economic policies.

This is not fortuitous, since the recent drop in the American dollar's exchange rate and the growing mistrust in it on the part of the oil-exporting countries, the weakening of the French franc's position and, lastly, the devaluation at the end of last week of the Norwegian krone (connected with the West European "currency snake"), have brought the problem of the vulnerability of the capitalist world's currencies very prominently to the fore once again.

Reflected in the mirror of the monetary crisis are the deep disproportions in the economic development of the individual countries and areas of the capitalist world, the sharpening inter-imperialist contradictions.

Having accepted the notorious concept of "three locomotives", imposed by the United States at the latest economic summit in London, the FRG and Japan thereby committed themselves to speed up economic growth rates by artificially stimulating domestic demand. The captains of the capitalist world hoped this tactic would enable them to pull the capitalist train out of the bog of protracted depression. However, afraid of the inflationary consequences, both the FRG and Japan under various pretexts, are trying to shirk their obligations, compensating deficient domestic demand by stepping up foreign economic expansion. This is the circumstance that poured oil on the still smouldering embers of the monetary crisis.

Washington reacted to the "partisan moves" of its partners by a tactically advantageous retreat of the dollar. Quietly "watching" over the fall of its national currency's rate, the United States for a long time deliberately provoked excessive exchange rates of the Japanese yen and the West German mark, very unpalatable to Bonn and Tokyo.

So now, again, the U.S. demonstrated at Versailles its resolve to shift the brunt of the payment for the upsets of the world capitalist economy onto the shoulders of its "closest partners." This, in particular, is indicated by a confidential report circulated by the secretariat of the organisation for economic cooperation and development (OECD). During the ministers' conference, according to the *New York Times*, it unambiguously hints at a still lower rate to which the dollar might drop unless the FRG and Japan effectively speed up their national economic growth rates.

In organising the Versailles meeting, the leaders of the capitalist world hoped it would cheer up financiers before the opening on Monday of the money exchanges. According to reports from leading financial centres in the West, however, the stock brokers don't seem to have much faith in the healing properties of emergency meetings behind the scenes: the leading Western currencies are still feverish.

WALDHEIM URGES REORGANIZATION OF WORLD ECONOMIC TIES

LD140758Y Moscow TASS in English 0752 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 14, TASS--Kurt Waldheim, the U.N. secretary-general, called for a reorganization of international economic relations on a democratic foundation, for the elimination of discrimination, dictation and inequality of rights from them.

In a call to the members of the U.N. General Assembly committee on economic problems, set up following a decision by the 32nd session of the assembly, he emphasized that the building of a new international economic order would accord with the interests of social and economic progress of the peoples, especially of the developing countries, their economic advance and expansion of trade on an equal mutually-advantageous foundation.

Kurt Waldheim next emphasized that the positive changes in the international arena, above all, the relaxation of tension, furnish a favourable foundation for the development of international business cooperation in the interests of the maintenance of peace and security of the peoples. The building of a new international economic order, he said, would promote economic and social progress on a world-wide scale.

The U.N. secretary-general also advocated the expansion of economic contacts and cooperation between the developing countries themselves as an important factor making for the reorganization of international economic relations on a more equitable and equal foundation.

SOVIET HEALTH MINISTER OUTLINES DANGER OF NEUTRON BOMB

LD100940Y Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 10, TASS--"As a doctor and scientist responsible for public health, I cannot but express my indignation at the Pentagon's plans to begin the manufacture of neutron weapons," said Boris Petrovskiy, the minister of public health of the USSR. "An improbable thing is happening before our very eyes: Prospects of mass killings are being publicly discussed and approved without the least embarrassment. And this is done in the same hall of the American Congress where calls are made for justice and defence of human rights."

Boris Petrovskiy warns that the use of the neutron bomb threatens to produce terrible consequences. Its main hitting factor, neutron radiation, causes a very serious form of radiation sickness. The tormenting manifestations and issue of radiation sickness are known to us not only from experiments on animals but also from the tragic "experiments" in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The explosion of a neutron bomb which causes fatal radiation sickness in humans who happened to be within a radius of one kilometre from the epicentre, also destroys fully buildings at a distance of about two hundred metres, the minister said. The same demolition, the same fires, the same destruction of material and cultural values.

"Not a single sober-minded person can consider real a situation in which a column of tanks is hit by a neutron bomb explosion while a peaceful family are quietly drinking tea two or three kilometres away".

"History teaches us that not a single war is limited to the use of arms on the battlefields only: Civilian have always suffered from them. And the more perfected the arms the more suffering they brought to people."

Neutron radiation, interacting with the ground, the surface of streets and roads, the walls of buildings and especially with metal constructions induces radioactivity in them, Boris Petrovskiy stressed. This radioactivity will not only persist for a long time but render difficult medical aid to the victims in the period immediately after the explosion. Thus, the material and cultural values which seem to be the main concern of the overseas politicians and which, they claim, will not be harmed, will in fact be turned into sources of radiation.

"Millions of deaths and terrible diseases will descend upon the peaceful people if neutron bombs are set off. And it makes no difference whether explosions take place over the battlefields or over peaceful cities and villages," the minister said.

U.S. PLANE SALES TO MIDEAST 'COUNTER PRESIDENT'S PROMISE'

LD142132Y Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 14, TASS--The U.S. administration decided to send another large batch of combat planes to the Middle East. The U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, told newsmen that a decision has been made to sell to Israel another 90 combat aircraft, including 75 "F-16" and 15 "F-15" fighters, 50 "F-5E" fighters to Egypt and 60 "F-15" fighters to Saudi Arabia.

The decision runs counter to President Carter's promise to cut the sales of American arms abroad.

BROWN, REPUBLICAN STATEMENTS ON MILITARY POLICY CRITICIZED

LD141701Y Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "A Dangerous Course"]

[Text] Washington, 10 February--U.S. reactionary circles are launching a campaign to further intensify the arms race. To justify this militarist course, they are fanning the myth of the "Soviet threat" on the one hand, and on the other they are trying to prove that the increase in military expenditure and the creation of new types and systems of weapons will allegedly help revive the American economy, although it is well known that it is precisely the arms race which is the main reason for the American economy's current troubles.

This campaign is reflected, in particular, in the appearance of two documents--Defense Secretary H. Brown's report to Congress on the Pentagon's military budget for fiscal 1979 and a statement by the U.S. Republican Party on the administration's policy in the military sphere.

The first document indicates that U.S. military expenditure for fiscal 1979 will go up to \$128.4 billion compared with \$116.7 billion in the current fiscal year. H. Brown stated that in coming years U.S. military expenditure will increase constantly and by fiscal 1983 will reach \$172.7 billion. The report emphasizes the acceleration of the implementation of the modernization program for all branches of U.S. strategic forces. Work in creating and developing the new strategic MX missile, cruise missiles, new high capacity and high accuracy MK-12A warheads, and in constructing the fleet of Trident nuclear submarines will be speeded up.

The Pentagon is giving special attention to strengthening American Armed Forces--both nuclear and conventional--in Western Europe.

The Republican Party leadership is expressing itself in unison with the reactionary forces representing the interests of the American military clique and the military industrial complex. In a special statement on the subject of the new Pentagon budget for 1978, the Republicans stated that they consider the proposed military appropriations "inadequate." They express dissatisfaction with the decision to postpone the program for constructing B-1 bombers, call upon the present administration "to agree" to any limitations with respect to cruise missile, and express dissatisfaction with the "inadequate"--in their opinion--appropriations for research, design and testing of strategic weapons and for building warships.

The continuation of the arms race is dangerous above all for the United States. The creation of monstrous arsenals of weapons, as historical experience shows, leads to an increase in the danger of war, undermines stability in the world and poisons the international atmosphere.

NEVADA WAR GAMES SEEN AS PSYCHOLOGICAL INDOCTRINATION

LD141523Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent M. Sturua dispatch: "Dangerous Phantoms of the Nevada Desert"]

[Text] Washington--Mirages are common concomitants of the desert. But we wish to speak of unusual mirages, caused not by the desert but by military fever. However, the action will still take place in a desert--in the south of Nevada State.

Here, over an area of 16,000 square miles, which is approximately equal to the territory of Switzerland, the Pentagon has been conducting air battles for 2 years. Two squadrons of "Tigers"--F-5E Northrop supersonic fighters--have been renamed Migs with appropriate identification marks. The pilots who fly them, provocatively called the "aggressors," imitate the flight characteristics of Soviet airmen and their everyday life on the ground.

The main stage is set not far from Las Vegas--the U.S. gambling capital--in the small town of Nellis. The Air Force headquarters there is bedecked with Soviet flags, emblems, slogans and posters. Soviet newspapers and journals lie on tables. Before coming to Nevada, the "aggressors" wore holes in their pants in a special Pentagon school situated in Washington, where they are taught, according to the magazine PARADE, "various aspects of Russian life and communist philosophy." All this taken together is called "Operation Red Flag."

It is customary to believe that you learn from your mistakes. The creators of the Nevada mirages maintain that they are learning from the mistakes of Vietnam. Unfortunately, what is meant in this case is not rejection of aggressive wars but more "substantial" preparation for them. A special ritual has been formulated to insure that no feeling of hostility arises between the "aggressors" and their "victims." After a "battle" they exchange handshakes, a bucket of cold war is poured on their heads (to sober them up), and then a bottle of champagne is split (for pleasant and slight intoxication).

Some people might say that the war games in the Nevada desert are ordinary maneuvers, but this is far from so. It is not for nothing that they are intensively publicized in the press. Here it is not only and not so much a question of training pilots for combat operations as of the psychological indoctrination of public opinion, which is gradually being accustomed to the idea that the Soviet Union is harboring aggressive intentions against the United States.

Incidentally, the farce involving disguises is being played out not only in the sands of Nevada. It can also be observed on the stage in the capital--Washington. I cannot help remembering Gen George Keegan, a well-known supporter of the neutron bomb. Until recently he headed U.S. Air Force strategic intelligence and liaised with other U.S. intelligence services.

Keegan's anticommunism and anti-Sovietism border on the pathological. Thus, for example, he used to turn up for his briefings at the Pentagon dressed in the uniform of a Soviet general in order, he said to "emphasize the very nearness of the Red threat."

Keegan boasts that he has behind him "35 years of professional study of the Soviet threat." Over these 35 years the general's brain has addled, and he dreams of "Reds" even in the Pentagon. Keegan resigned so as to acquire full freedom of action. He is now executive vice president of the American Institute for Questions of Strategy [Institut po Voprosam Strategii].

It is in precisely this capacity that Keegan visits Washington when the future of the neutron bomb is being discussed in Congress. Keegan does not tire of repeating his sensational forecast that the Soviet Union is ready to capture West Europe in 72 hours, and he presents the neutron bomb "as an attractive and sensible means of preventing war not only in Europe but also throughout the world."

Lovers of farces involving disguises at briefings in the Pentagon and in the deserts of Nevada do not get intoxicated on champagne, but for this reason it is not so easy to bring them to their senses. At any rate, you will hardly manage here with just one bucket of cold water. They are stoking war hysteria in order to justify the arms race, and then they use it for still greater poisoning of the international atmosphere.

JACKSON SPEECH 'CALUMNY ON SOCIALIST SYSTEM'

LD112234Y Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 12 TASS--Under the headline "not in the spirit of the times" the newspaper PRAVDA carries Andrey Ivanov's commentary, which says: "Senator Henry Jackson is widely known as an advocate of return to cold war in international relations. His practical activities in the U.S. Senate are a vivid confirmation of that. It is incidentally on his initiative that Soviet-U.S. trade relations were blocked. He authored the notorious Jackson-Vanik amendment by means of which certain U.S. circles tried to impose discriminatory terms on the Soviet Union in bilateral trade, and tried to interfere in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. Life refutes such an approach. But unfortunately the lesson does not do Mr Jackson any good. This is indicated by his recent address at a dinner in Washington to so-called 'coalition for Democratic Majority'.

"The senator's entire speech was imbued with the spirit of ill-will towards the Soviet Union and its people. It was full of absurd conglomerations in a calumny on the socialist system, on those laws and order by which the Soviet people live and work. It never occurred to the senator that each people itself determines the system under which it wants to live and determines its social order, and that only the people itself, and not an aspirant law-maker from across the ocean, can change the order.

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"The senator, for example, judging by his speech, would like to distort the real state of affairs in the Soviet Union where the constitution guarantees the Soviet people genuine rights: the right to work, education, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, the right to profess any religion, equal rights for all nationalities. But in his speech the senator takes care of quite a different thing: of renegades--anti-Sovietists who are exposed as agents of special services including services of the USA.

"And when under Soviet laws those people have to answer to law-court for actions directed against the existing social order and are liable to criminal punishment, the senator poses as 'an upholder of freedoms' and works himself up to such a state in which he loses an elementary sense of responsibility and allows himself to make insulting attacks on our state and the people. If Mr Jackson believes that that will boost his prestige as a politician, he deeply errs. History showed that those who slander the Soviet Union did not win good fame. Only by a political narrow-mindedness of Jackson and other figures like him one can explain his attempts to resort to blackmail devices in the said speech.

"Of course, Senator Jackson does this deliberately to please reactionary circles, the military-industrial complex, and all those who obviously dislike the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations and the easing of tensions in the world. But such an attitude is at variance with the aspirations of peoples, including the U.S. people who, as many facts convince, want to live in peace and friendship with the people of the Soviet Union. The American press describes Jackson as an inveterate advocate of cold war who comes out against detente and at the slightest pretext. Jackson's latest speech is an added proof of that."

'UNEXPECTED' BLUMENTHAL VISIT TO FRG EXPLAINED

LD141112Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] U.S. Treasury Secretary Blumenthal has arrived in Bonn for talks with Chancellor Schmidt and other West German politicians. Our correspondent in the FRG, Eduard Mnatsakanov, reports:

Washington is increasing its pressure on the FRG. Mutual dissatisfaction, friction and differences between Bonn and Washington are becoming exacerbated. This is the general tone of commentaries in the West German papers devoted to the unexpected visit of the American secretary. More food for newspaper speculation was provided by the secret meeting of finance ministers from Western countries in Versailles at the end of last week. What caused the differences? As is known all state and interstate measures adopted in the West to overcome the capitalist economic crisis have failed to achieve the desired results. In these conditions, the U.S. Government is increasing more and more its long-standing pressure on Bonn, demanding a so-called new contribution to the revival of the West's economic situation.

Bonn can and must do more, Count Lambsdorff, the FRG minister of economics, was told during his recent visit to the United States. Otherwise the United States would not keep the dollar from falling further. The depreciation of the dollar, which has seriously harmed the economy of the FRG and that of other Western European countries, remains, as we can see, one of the strongest means of American pressure on these countries.

Overcoming economic difficulties in Western Europe is seen by the same Washington strategists as a means of struggle against the communist parties, above all in Italy and France. The press here reports that on the other side of the Atlantic the West German minister of economics, on being pressed for new contributions, was asked directly whether Bonn was prepared to play its part in the struggle against communism. A few West German billions, the bourgeois paper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU writes with irony in this connection, are to close government doors to the communists. However, the paper concludes, there is an ever-broadening gulf between pretensions and reality. Washington has definitively lost the opportunity to change the world to its own taste.

KENNEDY URGES END TO U.S. MILITARY AID TO NICARAGUA

LD141432Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0906 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

["Terror in Nicaragua"--TASS headlines]

[Text] Washington--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports:

Edward Kennedy has called for an end to U.S. military assistance to the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua. Speaking in the Senate, he stressed that such aid contributes to breaches of elementary human rights in that Latin American country, since it is directed toward strengthening the repressive arm of the dictatorial regime--the Nicaraguan National Guard.

The senator pointed out that in spite of the formal ending of the state of emergency last autumn, vengeance against opponents of the regime continues to be taken in Nicaragua. This is shown by the recent assassination of Pedro Joachim Chamorro, a leader of the political opposition and editor of the paper PRENSA. This cruel murder, the senator pointed out, has caused a general strike in protest against the suppression of civil rights and liberties in the country.

The cruel suppression of the slightest sign of dissidence is also shown by a government report on human rights in Nicaragua published jointly by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House of Representatives International Relations Committee. It points out that reports are continuing to come in from Nicaragua about murders of opponents of the regime by the police, of imprisonment by "disloyalty suspects" without trial or investigation, and of night searches and arrests.

In spite of the continuing crude violation of elementary human rights, the Somoza regime continues to receive generous aid from the United States. In the current financial year, the United States intends to provide the dictator with weapons worth \$2.5 million and to set aside \$600,000 for training the National Guard.

BOOK ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN U.S. REVIEWED

LD070800Y Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--Real, documented facts of contemporary American life produce a staggering impression, Nikolay Kurdyumov writes in his review in PRAVDA on the book "The Situation in the Sphere of Human Rights in the United States" that was brought out by the political literature publishers. This book is the translation of the publication prepared by the Communist Party-USA in connection with an ideological campaign of the U.S. ruling circles, a hypocritical campaign "in defence of human rights" in socialist countries.

The book contains a long list of violations of the final act of the European conference by the U.S. authorities. Mentioned are the attempts at interference in internal affairs of other countries, discriminatory barriers on the way of economic cooperation and obstacles to cultural and other contacts of public organizations. The United States has not ratified many international covenants on human rights. It grossly violates the generally recognized provisions of these documents in glaring contradiction to the Helsinki agreements.

The book indicates that the United States Government denies in theory and in practice that the right to work or to means of subsistence has a principled importance for life in contemporary society.

There are ten million chronically unemployed in the richest capitalist country. 26 million people live below the official poverty line, and another eleven million Americans live on the poverty line, PRAVDA writes. Nine of every ten Americans cannot afford treatment in a hospital even if they have some or other form of personal medical insurance.

Particularly heavy is the plight of the aged. 5.8 million workers did not have old-age benefits in 1974.

Is it not the gross violation of the final act that racial discrimination is manifested everywhere? There are two black unemployed for each jobless white worker. The per capita income of Americans of the Mexican descent is 55 percent of the income of the white population, and this gap continues growing.

The book reveals the systematic flouting of political rights in the United States--reprisals and persecutions to which people are subjected for protesting against oppression, exploitation, discrimination and militarism. The Wilmington ten are only the most well-known persons among thousands of political prisoners, the review says.

FAILURE TO GUARANTEE HUMAN RIGHTS IN U.S. CONDEMNED

LD141344Y Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

["Human Rights and Washington's Hypocrisy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 14, TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports: For millions of Americans 1977 has become one more year of dashed hopes for employment, for eliminating crying social injustices and racial discrimination in education, housing and in political life. While coming out in words in defence of human rights the American administration has practically done nothing to guarantee these rights in the United States itself.

Such are the main conclusions made by the federal Committee on Civil Rights which has published its annual report on the civil rights situation in 1977. It follows from this report, which was sent to the U.S. President and Congress, that the administration has failed to keep its promises on what is one of the most acute issues in the social, economic and political life of America today.

It is said in the report that the employment situation in respect of national minorities and American women was on the whole a discouraging one. Unemployment among Negroes, for instance, reached 13.9 per cent, the highest rate after World War Two, which was twice as high as unemployment rates for white Americans. 41.1 per cent of young Negroes were out of work.

Despite the existing laws, the report says, there are not equal education opportunities for all children. Effective desegregation is for schools in many districts only a remote prospect. There is continued racial segregation at schools in Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Milwaukee and a number of other big cities in the U.S.

It is said in the report that the American Congress proclaimed the right of every American family to decent and convenient housing. But promises to end discrimination in housing remained unfulfilled. The authors of the report point to the astronomic growth of house prices, the refusal by landlords to let flats to "blacks in white neighbourhoods". Not a single district in the country is free from housing discrimination, the report says.

Police violence and repression are still characteristic of life in the USA. The committee, the report says, received in 1977 numerous complaints about police cruelty, persecution, beatings and murder. Police arbitrariness, the report says, is widespread, and one gets the impression that in some cities it is sanctioned officially. The victims of police terror are first of all poor people and national minorities who are denied by police their legitimate rights which are recorded in the U.S. Constitution.

AMERICAN INDIANS STAGING COAST-TO-COAST PROTEST MARCH

LD150848Y Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] San Francisco, February 15, TASS--A march of protest by a group of representatives of various American-Indian organisations of the USA is going on. The participants in the march from San Francisco to Washington are full of determination to attract the attention of the American and world public to the suppression of the civil rights of the country's indigenous population and state a vigorous protest against the oppression of national minorities. The American Indian activists will go on foot for about three thousand miles.

At present the marchers entered the territory of Nevada.

WEST WARNED AGAINST GIVING PRC NUCLEAR MATERIAL, TECHNOLOGY

LD141342Y Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

["Dangerous Manoeuvres" --TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 14, TASS--The TASS economic commentator Sergey Stoklitskiy writes:

It became known from a statement by an Australian Government spokesman that a high-ranking Chinese trade delegation is preparing to visit Sydney. The prime purpose of the visit was also revealed--to conduct talks on the purchase of Australian uranium. Recently, as reported by the London FINANCIAL TIMES, Peking conducted talks in Canada on the same subject, although the PRC has a big deficit in the trade with both of these countries.

It is noteworthy that simultaneously with the purchase of uranium the Peking leaders are showing growing interest in cooperation with the West in the field of nuclear technology. They strive to establish close contacts, in particular, with the West German concern "Kraftwerk Union" and the French firm "Framatom", which manufacture nuclear reactors.

In the course of the recent visit to Peking by the French Prime Minister Raymond Barre the Chinese leaders stubbornly pressed for French assistance in the development of nuclear power generation. John Adams, director general of the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Meyren (Switzerland), stated on his return from the PRC capital that China doggedly tries to obtain from the centre information on the latest achievements in the field of nuclear physics. In short the Peking leadership is obviously attracted by nuclear raw materials, equipment and technology. But for what aims? This is by no means an idle question.

Considering the openly militaristic directedness of the policy pursued by the Maoist leaders, their claims to hegemony and stubborn refusal to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, it becomes obvious that Peking's "uranium rush" is fraught with serious consequences for the entire international community. Judging by everything, some people in the West really think that Chinese nuclear bombs are intended exclusively for socialist countries. It is apt to recall the West's illusions on the eve of the Second World War when the leaders of some capitalist countries hoped to utilize Hitler Germany in their anti-Soviet aims and counted that it would leave them in peace.

But today the stakes in this dangerous game are much higher. Just one kilogram of plutonium not bigger than golf ball in size can destroy a whole city. Who can warrant that the uranium "balls", so kindly provided by the capitalist states to the Peking militarists, will not fly in their direction, the more so that for these people obsessed with expansionism, war in our nuclear age, as they put it themselves, is only a "paper tiger".

PRC LEADERSHIP'S ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN HINDERS RELATIONS

OW150514Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 14 Feb 78 OW

[Mulatov commentary]

[Excerpts] Listeners, at present the Chinese authorities are further instigating anti-Soviet hysteria.

News from China indicates that Mao Tse-tung's successors and their propaganda organizations are constantly making the allegation to the workers that "the Soviet Union will make every effort to invade China." The present masters in Chungnanhai have not only exceeded Mao Tse-tung in these political tricks but have also excelled in every way the four expert liars--Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao--who are now under arrest.

What attracts public attention is that all the new provincial and autonomous regional revolutionary committees in China were established amid rude, ridiculous anti-Soviet fabrications and chauvinistic, bellicose clamors. In his speech at the regional people's congress, Wang Feng, who has just assumed the post of chairman of the new Sinkiang Revolutionary Committee, bluffed the masses attending the congress by saying that "the Soviet Union may launch a surprise attack on China." In his explosive speech the agent of the Peking authorities in Sinkiang frenziedly called on the people to be prepared to wipe out the invaders resolutely, thoroughly, cleanly and wholly.

Listeners, let us put aside for the moment the reaction of the masses, who attended this congress in Urumchi, to Wang Feng's provocative, bellicose clamor. NCNA has not mentioned this issue either. The only thing I would like to point out is that the Soviet Union has never listened to such provocations. What should be made clear is that, if Wang Feng does not understand the facts himself, his behind-the-scene bosses in Peking understand very clearly that military confrontation with the Soviet Union just cannot happen, nor does it have any prospects of happening. If other people do not understand, in their hearts the Chinese leaders do; they know that the Soviet Union has no territorial claims against China. Soviet military power does not serve aggression and expansion but the sacred cause of all genuine revolutionaries, the defense of the achievements of the October Revolution and the peaceful labor of the Soviet people as they build communism.

Listeners, you should also understand that the Chinese leaders have not publicized the series of constructive Soviet proposals for restoring neighborliness and cooperation between our two countries, including the proposal for a USSR-China mutual nonaggression treaty and a treaty on the nonuse of military force or threat of force against each other. As everyone knows, the signing of such mutual treaties could markedly improve the political atmosphere of USSR-China relations and could create favorable conditions for the development of peaceful mutual interests and cooperation. But the Chinese side still peddles a nearsighted, fabricated anti-Soviet policy. In USSR-China relations, the Soviet Union is taking a positive stand and resolutely adhering to proletarian internationalism: This is what PRAVDA, the organ of the CPSU Central Committee, said in a 14 February commentary on the academic work, "USSR-China Relations From 1945 to 1977." The Chinese people should understand that the Soviet Union has never forsaken the policy of seeking normalization of USSR-China relations as formulated by the 24th and 25th CPSU Congresses.

Besides publishing all kinds of anti-Soviet materials, Chinese newspapers are also talking glibly about so-called "screening work." For instance, PEOPLE'S DAILY on 13 February said that enterprises and organizations in which screening work is not done well should adopt effective measures for strengthening their leadership. From this point alone, one can see that the Chinese regime has done a poor job regarding the progress and scale of screening work in the current, so-called "third campaign to oppose the gang of four." In fact, this movement is an embodiment of Mao Tse-tung's anti-Marxist policy on class struggle and an implementation of this policy under present conditions.

While carrying out the clean-up campaign in the army, the Chinese leaders have repeatedly stressed that the army should play a more active role in the so-called class struggle at home. According to foreign newspapers, people of the Teng faction have (?stabilized their positions) in the LIBERATION ARMY DAILY. They said in (?an article) that, because the army is the main tool of the dictatorship of the proletariat in the class struggle on the international stage and at home, it is mandatory to clean it up politically, ideologically and organizationally. Therefore, those who attempt to completely control the army intend to make it a tool for an adventurist foreign policy and a police policy within a generally antipopular domestic policy. Harangues about the dictatorship of the proletariat probably cannot hoodwink anyone now. Lessons learned from the gang of four, who claimed to be standard bearers of the dictatorship of the proletariat, have opened the eyes of many people.

'CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE' IN U.S. ABOUT PRC RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

LD141231Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 7, 10 Feb 78 p 17 LD

[Article by G. Smirnov: "Acting Dumb"]

[Text] The so-called champions of human rights in the United States are very eloquent when they comment on the "violation" of civil rights in the socialist countries. However, when instances of failure to observe human rights in the United States become known they keep silent. They also lose the gift of oratory in cases involving lawlessness in countries where the economic, strategic and other interests of trans-national corporations and the U.S. military and intelligence services are substantially represented, say in Chile and Uruguay, Rhodesia and South Africa and a number of other countries.

They are also quiet about what is happening in the PRC. Maybe they lack information? Yet plenty of Americans visit Peking and they, of all people, should have heard about the purges and executions, and the same goes for Washingtonians in general. But the human rights "fighters" are not filled with noble indignation. This is no accident, as the Washington POST notes. "In the West there is a kind of conspiracy of silence about the violation of civil rights in the PRC...."

As is known, the Maoists offer their services to all who have not given up hope of "ousting" the socialist community. And is this not the reason that Washington, which aspires to the role of virtual leader in the struggle for civil freedoms throughout the world, is acting dumb? To avoid incurring Peking's displeasure....

GIEREK LAUDS SOVIET-POLISH TIES IN PZPR CONFERENCE SPEECH

LD141445Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Unshakable Foundation"]

[Text] Warsaw, 11 February--33 years of persistent labor have brought Poland and the Poles rich results and great historical changes. Our main task now is to raise the efficiency of economic management and the general use of people's knowledge and qualifications and the country's industrial potential, E. Gierek, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee, said at a PZPR report and election conference.

Commenting on the results of the elections to the local people's councils, Gierek stressed that they reflected the people's moral-political unity. The Polish working class, peasantry and intelligentsia confirmed their support for the strategy of the 6th and 7th Party Congresses and the course elaborated for the country's development under the leadership of the PZPR.

In the international arena, E. Gierek continued, we are pursuing an active and consistent policy dictated by the interests of the state and people. The unshakeable foundation of this policy is alliance with the land of the Soviets, the consolidation of the unity of the socialist community, the intensification of detente and the implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution enabled us to reaffirm our people's alliance with the Soviet people by wholehearted, fraternal ties and to demonstrate the ideological unity of the Polish and Soviet communists.

We attach great significance to the dynamic development of Polish-Soviet relations in all spheres, the PZPR Central Committee first secretary said. He noted the significance of the accords reached as a result of the visit paid to the USSR by R. Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, for intense and expansive economic co-operation between Poland and the Soviet Union. We see in these accords, E. Gierek said, a new testimony to the international unity and fraternal friendship uniting Poland and the Soviet Union, the Polish and Soviet peoples, and the PZPR and the CPSU.

Our entire policy is guided by the great principles of proletarian internationalism and the ideals of Marxism-Leninism, E. Gierek concluded.

DOLANC CITES ACHIEVEMENTS, GOALS OF LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS

LD141607Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "LCY Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Belgrade, 10 February--As reported earlier, a plenum of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee has been held in Belgrade. On the instruction of J. Broz Tito, LCY chairman, the plenum was opened by E. Kardelj, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

The plenum adopted a decision to convene the routine 11th LCY Congress this June. The plenum examined and confirmed the "basic theses for the preparation of the 11th LCY Congress documents." S. Dolanc, secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium Executive Bureau, delivered the report on this question.

The LCY is the vanguard of the working class and the working people of Yugoslavia, the leading and directing force which commands a decisive role in the further development of Yugoslav society, S. Dolanc said. The 10th LCY Congress confirmed the party's revolutionary course and marked a new step forward in our development.

In fulfilling the 10th congress decisions, we have achieved great successes and acquired new and important experience. All this remains to be analyzed and assessed by the 11th party congress which will determine the tasks for the future. Our achievements would have been impossible without the organizing work of the LCY, and without the daily endeavors of the working people and all the citizens of our country.

The keynote speaker went on to say that at recent conferences devoted to the topical issues of LCY building and the preparations for the plenum, LCY Chairman J. Broz Tito issued several specific instructions concerning the party's activity in preparing for the 11th congress.

Speaking of party building, S. Dolanc noted that since the 10th congress about 700,000 new members have been admitted to the LCY. At the end of 1977 membership exceeded 1,629,000. There are now about 500,000 workers in the LCY, forming the largest social group in the party.

After the 10th congress, the keynote speaker continued, we began to pay attention to the political education of communists. The number of political schools has increased. Last year there were about 660 such schools in the LCY which were attended by approximately 90,000 students. S. Dolanc stressed that the greatest attention must be paid to the Marxist education of party members in the future also.

During the preparations for the 11th congress and at the congress itself the problems of the country's economic growth will be discussed. In the period which has passed good results have been obtained in the development of productive forces and in raising the living and cultural standards of the working people. The social product and national income have increased every year by an average of 5.9 percent. We have achieved this in conditions of an extremely difficult struggle for economic stability to eliminate the consequences of inflation, S. Dolanc noted. The struggle for economic stability and for raising labor productivity will remain the main task of our socialist self-management society in the future also.

Despite extensive capital building the changes in the country's economic structure are still unsatisfactory and the efficiency of capital investments remains weak.

Dwelling on matters of foreign policy, S. Dolanc stated that the international policy of the LCY and Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia promotes the struggle for socialism and social progress in the world and also the further consolidation of Yugoslavia's international position. He said that Yugoslavia will continue to actively advocate the cessation of the arms race, disarmament and peaceful solutions to disputed international questions.

In conclusion, S. Dolanc stated the discussion of the theses of the documents for the 11th congress in the LCY will help solve the country's urgent social and economic problems.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EAST EUROPE

BULGARIAN GROUP NOTES ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET ARMED FORCES

LD141525Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] A meeting of the Bulgarian Association of Fellow Countrymen, devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces, took place in Moscow on 10 February.

Army General V.F. Tolubko, USSR deputy defense minister, generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces, veterans of the Great Patriotic War, and activists of the Soviet-Bulgarian Friendship Society were present at the meeting. The meeting was opened by D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

In the speeches of Lt Gen P. Karakachanov, military, naval and air force attache to the Bulgarian Embassy in the USSR, and other Bulgarian comrades it was noted that Bulgarian people will always keep in their hearts profound gratitude to the Soviet people and the Soviet Army--their liberator. The Soviet Armed Forces, they stressed, watch vigilantly over the gains of socialism. Their might is a reliable guarantee of world peace.

Army General V.F. Tolubko stated in his speech that the friendship of the peoples and armies of the two countries is a real contribution to strengthening the might of the socialist community. Devoted to the cause of socialism and equipped with modern weapons, the Bulgarian People's Army is a true combat ally of the Soviet Armed Forces.

GDR Embassy Observes Anniversary

LD141527Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "Devoted to the Jubilee"]

[Text] A meeting devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces took place in Moscow on 9 February. It was organized by the GDR Embassy in the Soviet Union. Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister, Vice Adm A.I. Sorokin, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces took part in the meeting.

The Soviet Union and its valiant armed forces, H. Ott, GDR ambassador to the USSR, said, defeated Hitlerite fascism by accomplishing a great liberating feat and also opened up, for our people the path to peace, democracy and socialism. The USSR, the ambassador stressed, is a reliable bastion preserving peace throughout the world.

Army General S.K. Kurkotkin spoke of the heroic combat path traveled in 60 years by the USSR Armed Forces.

BCP OFFICIALS AWARDED SOVIET HONORARY BADGES

LD142115Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Soviet honorary badges of "Winner of Socialist Competition 1977" have been presented to a large group of labor front rankers from Sofia and Sofia district. Among the winners are Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the republic's State Council; Todorov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers; and other Bulgarian leaders. More than 1,000 Bulgarian citizens have been presented with this award.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EAST EUROPE

CSSR LEADER THANKS BREZHNEV FOR BIRTHDAY MESSAGE

LD141035Y Moscow PRAVA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

Dear Leonid Ilich:

I wholeheartedly thank you, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium for the warm, sincere and comradely greetings on my birthday and for the high assessment of my modest activities.

At the same time I wish to assure you, dear Leonid Ilich, that I will continue to devote all my strength to further deepening the fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between our communist parties and our countries in the interests of strengthening the unity of the socialist community, peace, security and international cooperation and in the interests of the victory of socialism and communism.

With communist greetings,

[Signed] G. Husak

WIDF CALLS FOR DISARMAMENT, DENOUNCES NEUTRON BOMB

LD142044Y Moscow TASS in English 2004 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, Feb 14, TASS--The GDR news agency ADN reports:

The Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF) has again called for efficient steps for worldwide disarmament. In a letter to the preparatory committee for the special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly it above all emphatically condemns the planned manufacture of the neutron weapon.

The WIDF, based in the GDR capital Berlin, requests the committee to pay more attention to the talks about curbing armaments. It points to the necessity to reduce the military budgets in favour of the fundamental needs of the peoples and to work out concrete proposals for a treaty on the non-use of force in international relations.

Actions for a world disarmament conference were urgently necessary, WIDF says.

ADDITION TO APRO AT KREMLIN LUNCHEON

The following addition to the item entitled "Apro Attends Kremlin Luncheon, Speaks on Cooperation" and subtitled "More On Speech," published in the 1 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page D 2, was taken from Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET of 31 January:

Page D 2, third paragraph, line 10 reads: detente forces. Antal Apro paid tribute to the Soviet Union's new constitution stressing that this fundamental law is highly significant also from the viewpoint of determining the prospects of development of our country and the world as a whole. He noted at the end of his speech that the 30th anniversary of the conclusion of the Hungarian-Soviet friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance treaty is approaching. The treaty has created a new type of relations and firm foundations for developing cooperation between our countries and enabled us to feel year after year and day after day that our entire life is permeated by Hungarian-Soviet friendship and fraternal cohesion between our peoples. Antral Apro has invited a delegation of the Soviet Union's Supreme Soviet to pay a visit to Hungary.

MAGYAR NEMZET omits the rest.

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BRITISH CLAIM ON DEVELOPMENT OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPON REFUTED

LD141934Y Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 14, TASS--TASS commentator Nataliya Zinovyeva writes:

Slanderers continue to disseminate their crazy concoctions to the effect that the Soviet Union is conducting extensive work to develop "the most dangerous" types of bacteriological weapons: Such allegations come from various quarters. Now it is Stewart Menol, retired British Air Force vice marshal, and now anonymous "Sovietologists" from the French bourgeois papers L'AURORA and LE FIGARO who cite the data of "a London Institute for International Studies."

Actually they are simply repeating the concoction which appeared a fortnight ago in the British press and was fully exposed as a lie. Exposing the nature of that provocative concoction, the TASS news agency recalled at the time that the Soviet Union was one of the main initiators of the international convention to ban the development, manufacture and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons and their destruction and that the USSR has always strictly and scrupulously honored its international commitments in accordance with their letter and spirit.

Why have certain Western circles resurrected this propaganda "canard"?

The answer is suggested by Menol's interview to an ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent. The ex-vice marshal alleges that the USSR "is developing the bacteriological weapon" as a counter-weight to the West's neutron bomb. The plans to create and develop the neutron weapon nurtured by the pentagon and the NATO military caused a world-wide wave of protests. The provocative concoction circulated by the Western press is apparently aimed at diverting public attention from these protests and in the process smearing the USSR and its policy of peace. This is the aim of the "second-round falsification". The first time around it blew up like a soap bubble and the same will happen this time.

SPANISH INI OFFICIAL IN MOSCOW FOR ECONOMIC TALKS

LD132136Y Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1900 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Francisco Gimenez Torres, the president of the National Institute of Industry [INI] is currently in Moscow for talks on various aspects of industrial and technical cooperation between Spain and the USSR. It is hoped that during his visit to the USSR, Gimenez Torres will come to some agreement on the resumption of the suspended negotiations on fishing between the two countries.

The president of the INI will return to Madrid on Friday 17 February.

In addition, a Soviet representative is expected to visit Spain next week to analyze the state of current relations between the two countries.

LIBYA'S JALLUD GREETED BY KOSYGIN ON ARRIVAL IN USSR

LD141505Y Moscow TASS in English 1458 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 14, TASS--Member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah 'Abd as-Salam Jallud arrived in Moscow today for an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport, decorated with flags of the two countries, the guest was welcomed by Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 14 February reports that Mazurov, Kuznetsov and other officials were also at the airport to meet Jallud.]

LIBYAN, SYRIAN LEADERS' USSR VISITS SEEK TO FURTHER ARAB AIMS

LD141830Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Today Soviet public opinion is welcoming the Moscow arrival of 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah. Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic is also expected to arrive in the Soviet capital on an official visit during the second half of this month.

Observers believe that their talks with leaders of the Soviet Union will deal with the development of events in the Middle East in favor of the Arabs struggling against imperialism, for the elimination of the consequences of Israeli aggression. It must be stated that all grounds exist for such optimistic predictions. Time has shown that an important condition for the success of the liberation struggle of the Arab people is the development of their overall relations with the Soviet Union. Using this as their point of departure the participants in the Algiers steadfastness summit conference stressed the need to strengthen the relations of the Arab countries with the Soviet Union, which extends to all people continuous and overall assistance and backing in the struggle against imperialism.

The Algerian paper AL-MUJAHID has written that the Soviet policy gives it the right to be the main ally of the Arab countries. The Arab people need such a sincere and strong ally specifically at this time, when the balance of power in the Arab world is shifting toward resistance to the plans of imperialism and Zionism being implemented by As-Sadat.

The Soviet policy is an international one which defines the Soviet Union's attitude toward the overall Middle East settlement, encompassing the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression. The Soviet Union begins with the premise that there is no way to establish just and lasting peace in the Middle East except by complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and by insuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state. A settlement means a return to the 1967 borders and insuring security and right to independent development of all states in the region.

This policy differs fundamentally from the policy of those who use the Middle East settlement as a political ploy to implement their selfish designs and who use partial, separate agreements to put off genuine solutions or to expose such solutions to suspicion. It should be stressed that those who pursue this course specifically are the leaders of the United States, Israel and Egypt. They are trying, through separate deals between Tel Aviv and Cairo under Washington's auspices, to find their own settlement which would form part of the U.S.-Israeli plan to perpetuate occupation of part of the Arab territories and to deny the Palestinian Arab people their legitimate national rights.

There is no need to say that the separate talks between Egypt and Israel seriously complicate the achievement of an overall settlement of the Middle East question and wreck the solidarity of the Arab people and their just struggle, including the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people.

The Soviet Union supports the efforts of the progressive Arab countries to cement their unity in the struggle against imperialism, reaction and Zionism, which were reflected specifically in the decisions of the Algiers steadfastness summit conference.

Soviet public opinion is entirely convinced that the successes of its friends, such as Libya, Syria, Iraq and other Arab countries, will become more important when the struggle of the Arab countries against imperialism becomes more concentrated and when attempts to obstruct the unity of their efforts become more frequent. It is certain that the visits of 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and Hafiz al-Assad to Moscow will strive to realize this aim.

ALL-EMBRACING SETTLEMENT, NOT SEPARATE DEALS NEEDED IN MIDEAST

LD141301Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[L. Koryavin article: "Labyrinths of a Separate Deal"]

[Text] Following his visit to Jerusalem, As-Sadat made a dash across the ocean and then a lightning trip to a number of European capitals. The Egyptian president's air liner has covered thousands of miles but the Israeli soldiers have not withdrawn from a single meter of occupied Sinai.

The Egyptian leadership's separate policy has not brought Cairo the desired results. The Egyptian president's present visit to the United States, commentators note, "contained elements of despair."

Cairo's separate course has been resolutely condemned by the Arab people. This was stressed in the political declaration adopted at the recent Algiers conference.

During the talks with As-Sadat, Washington limited itself to obscure promises and suggestions to send a high-ranking diplomat to the Near East, naturally so that he might continue to strive for a settlement in the interests of the U.S. and Israel. Progressive Arab press circles rightly stress that it would be wrong to differentiate between the positions of these two countries. If we are speaking of the United States' so-called "balanced approach" to the Near East, it has remained a verbal one only. Cairo's hopes that the United States would put "pressure" on Tel Aviv are extremely illusory.

It is no accident that the White House statement on the results of the U.S.-Egyptian talks initially highlights the commitments to support Israel. This document bypasses the question of convening the Geneva peace conference. With regard to the Palestinian problem, the statement contains general propositions on the legal rights of the Palestinian people but bypasses the specific question of creating a Palestinian state and of the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in a Near East settlement.

It is indicative that Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan followed As-Sadat to Washington. Commentators are inclined to believe that his visit will prove more fruitful.. Tel Aviv, which has hardened its position in the talks with Cairo, is demanding that Egypt accept its conditions, that is, agree to a fake peace which would exclude the main aspects of a Near East settlement.

Moreover, in the very attempt to conclude a separate deal one can glimpse the desire of the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction to strike against the Arab peoples' progressive achievements, to split their unity definitively and to delay the national liberation processes.

Despite these serious obstacles, objective conditions exist for resolving the complex Near East problems. It is not separate deals which only further tighten the Near East knot but an all-embracing settlement which can lead the Near East out of the labyrinth of this crisis.

SEPARATE TALKS LEAD TO MIDEAST IMPASSE, NOT PEACE

LD141613Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[From V. Vinogradov and V. Berezin International Military-Political Review: "Near East: Along the Wrong Path"]

[Text] A change of visitors has taken place in Washington. President A. as-Sadat of Egypt has left the U.S. capital, and Israeli Premier M. Begin is coming. Both visits are connected with the current impasse in the Israeli-Egyptian talks. Thus, according to the New York TIMES, "This trip to Washington by As-Sadat contained an element of desperation. His initiative, which began with such fanfares, has subsided." This has happened because the Tel Aviv rulers have even further hardened their stand in the course of Cairo's unilateral actions, without even hinting that they are prepared to make any concessions on the main questions of a settlement. As was only to be expected, the contacts between Egypt and Israel have not only not produced any positive results but, on the contrary, have put the brakes on an overall settlement in the Near East.

What, then, has this visit to Washington by A. as-Sadat produced? Even though the White House statement published after the end of the talks stated that "a peace settlement must be comprehensive," it sidestepped the question of the creation of a Palestinian state and of PLO participation in a Near East settlement. Nor does it say anything about convening the Geneva Peace Conference. And as regards the aid which As-Sadat was seeking, according to the U.S. press, Washington "found it difficult if not impossible to give it" because of its "special relationship" with Israel.

Now M. Begin is coming to the U.S. capital. But what can be expected from his visit is, on the eve of his trip, the Israeli premier declared in an interview with the Miami HERALD that "no fine words or threats" will make Israel consent to the demand for withdrawal from all the occupied territories and granting the right to self-determination to the Palestinian Arab peoples. These demands, M. Begin emphasized, "have never been nor ever will be acceptable to Israel."

From the very first days of Cairo's unilateral steps progressive Arab circles have sharply criticized the attempts to secure a separate settlement at the expense of the other peoples of the Near East, behind their backs, bypassing and ignoring the Geneva Peace Conference. The conference of leaders of a number of countries, which ended in Algiers a few days ago, became an important stage in the consolidation of forces opposed to the intrigues of imperialism and Zionism in the Arab East. [paragraph continues]

Its participants--Algeria, Libya, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the PLO--resolutely condemned As-Sadat's capitulatory course and emphasized that the liberation by Israel of all the Arab lands occupied by it and the realization of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people including the formation of an independent state, is a necessary condition for a genuine settlement in the Near East. The meeting in Algiers demonstrated the Arab peoples' determination to strengthen cooperation with the socialist countries, above all with the Soviet Union, and emphasized the need for the USSR's participation in all stages of a Near East settlement. Noting the importance of the results of the Algiers Conference, the South Yemen newspaper ATH-THAWRI wrote that at this moment the Arab peoples need unity more than ever.

Attempts to split the pan-Arab front are being undertaken against the background of Israel's demonstrative reluctance to abandon its annexationist course and its pursuit of a position of strength policy. Its rulers are still building up the country's military potential, having allocated 54 billion Israeli pounds for military purposes in the new budget. As always, Tel Aviv is setting its hopes on support from across the ocean. The United States is promising it military aid to the tune of \$1.8 billion this year. But this is not enough for the aggressor. He is demanding delivery of 175 new U.S. F-15 and F-16 aircraft. According to a report in the Jerusalem POST, there is also every reason to believe that M. Begin will secure satisfaction of this demand during his visit.

At the same time Tel Aviv is continuing to construct militarized settlements in the occupied lands at an increased pace. Kibbutzim are appearing primarily on the West Bank of the Jordan, in the north of Sinai and on the Golan Heights.

Thus, Cairo's hopes of concessions from Tel Aviv and support from Washington are not being justified. The path of separate talks on which As-Sadat has embarked leads not to peace but directs the Near East problem into an impasse.

ALGIERS MEETING EMPHASIZES NEED FOR GREATER USSR ROLE IN MIDEAST

LD141241Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[A. Leonidov commentary: "The Arab Peoples' Determination"]

[Text] The situation in the Near East remains tense. The protracted military and political crisis which has arisen there because of Israel's aggressive actions has still not been settled. Tel Aviv is hardening its positions. The wire carries alarming reports of new aggressive actions by the Israeli military in southern Lebanon. The Tel Aviv administration is accelerating the creation of its strategic bases on occupied territories in the form of so-called military settlements.

The policy of separate deals begun by the Egyptian leadership has sharply complicated the situation in the Near East. It runs counter to the national interests of the Arab peoples and to the aims of their struggle to liquidate the consequences of Israeli aggression.

All this is causing serious concern in the Arab world. The Arab people are fully determined to frustrate the conspiracy of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, which are trying to change the correlation of forces in the Near East in their own favor and to strike a blow at the national liberation processes.

The Algiers conference of heads of state and members of the leadership of Algeria, Libya, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the PLO was an important event which demonstrated the desire of progressive Arab forces to strengthen their solidarity.
[paragraph continues]

The political declaration adopted there is a topical document which emphasizes that the liberation of all the Arab lands occupied by Israel and the realization of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create an independent state, is a necessary condition for a genuine settlement in the Near East.

The participants in the Algiers conference decisively condemned As-Sadat's capitulatory course, which runs counter to the vitally important interests of the Arab people and is aimed at a solution of the Near East problem which would be implemented at the expense of the interests of the Arab countries and the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The Algiers conference demonstrated once again the Arab peoples' determination to strengthen cooperation with the socialist countries, above all with the Soviet Union, and emphasized the need for the USSR's participation at all stages of a Near East settlement.

One more step was taken in Algiers toward consolidating the Arab world's progressive forces, which are struggling for a genuine and just solution to the Near East crisis.

LEBANESE CONSERVATIVES, ISRAEL CONTINUE MILITARY ACTION IN SOUTH

LD141430Y Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 14, TASS--TASS correspondents Anatoliy Borisov and Leonid Volnov report:

The situation in the eastern districts of the Lebanese capital has not yet returned to normal. Many stores, offices and banks remain closed and schools have not resumed classes. There were sporadic firefights during the night. Acts of terrorism and seizure of hostages have become more frequent. The military units of the conservative forces continue to hold their positions. Note is made of a considerable increase in the number of armed patrols of the conservative "Lebanese front". Syrian troops from the inter-Arab peace force in the Lebanon are making further efforts to normalise the situation. As it is noted in local political circles, this is desired by the absolute majority of the population.

Serious alarm is caused by the further escalation of tension in the south of Lebanon where conservative forces with the active support of the Israeli military attacked last night positions of the national patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement virtually throughout the entire central and western sectors. Israeli artillery shelled for many hours populated localities in the 'Urqub, An-Nabatiyah and Marj 'Uyun areas. There are killed and wounded among the civilian population. Last night Israeli military launches violated Lebanon's territorial waters in the Ras An-Naqurah area, but were driven off by shore artillery. Systematically penetrating into Lebanese territory Israeli troops capture Lebanese civilians and conduct mass searches in border villages.

Local observers note that the conservative "Lebanese front" is striving to launch a propaganda campaign against the inter-Arab peace force and to obstruct a stabilisation of the situation in the country. Statements by conservative leaders and publications of the "Lebanese front" contain attacks on the government's decision to form a commission to investigate the armed incidents and to set up an emergency tribunal to punish those guilty of provoking the recent armed clashes.

The Beirut newspaper AL-KIFAH AL-'ARRABI points out the unseemly role of the Egyptian President as-Sadat who has made statements actually containing a call for resumed armed clashes in Lebanon.

Partition Sought

LD141400Y Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 14 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Beirut, February 14, TASS--Representatives of Lebanon's conservative forces and their supporters have arranged a provocative gathering near the Israeli frontier. They demanded proclamation of a "free south-Lebanese state" and its close military-political alliance with Israel.

This political gathering, staged by an Israeli scenario, has shown the aims the conservative "Lebanese front" pursues. They seek to have the country partitioned, the national-patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement weakened and Syrian-Lebanese cooperation prevented.

EGYPTIAN LEFTIST LEADER CONDEMNS AS-SADAT PEACE INITIATIVE

LD141735Y Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 14 Feb 78 ID

["Poor Results"--TASS headline]

[Text] Cairo, February 14, TASS--Khalid Muhy ad-Din, chairman of the National Progressive (left) Party of Egypt, who recently visited the United States, declared in the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHALI that As-Sadat's so-called "peace initiative" did not meet with understanding among the Arab circles in the United States.

It remains unclear for many, Muhy ad-Din writes, what As-Sadat regards as a "settlement". It is common knowledge, that a genuine solution of the problem cannot be achieved by continuing the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations within the frameworks of the political and military committees. An international organ--the Geneva peace conference--exists for this purpose, which can be convened only if Arab solidarity is restored and given the assistance of the Soviet Union.

Analyzing the results of As-Sadat's visit to the United States, the newspaper AL-AHALI stresses that its principal goals to obtain American backing in "exhorting" Israel and to get modern arms not been attained. The American diplomatic circles have made it clear that "special relations" have been established between the United States and Israel and urged As-Sadat to "behave calmly", not to resort to "political tricks" and "sensations".

EGYPT'S 'LIBERALIZATION' POLICY CAUSES POVERTY, UNREST

LD091128Y Moscow TASS in English 0802 GMT 9 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Moscow, February 9, TASS--The activity of foreign banks in the Arab Republic of Egypt reveals the consequences of the policy of "liberalization", PRAVDA's Cairo correspondent, Aleksey Vasilyev, says today. Under a law enacted in 1975, they are permitted to engage in loan, credit, currency and other operations. Permitting the activity of foreign banks and exempting them from taxation for five years, the Egyptian authorities claimed that this was done to use them to attract foreign capital for development projects.

Instead of becoming centers for the attraction of foreign capital to Egypt, the foreign banks became channels for pumping Egyptian money abroad, said a recent report of Egypt's Central Bank.

A former minister of economic affairs, Zaki Shafiya, is quoted by the correspondent as saying that the shortage of capital in Egypt enabled foreign banks to raise the interest rate for loans and to make big profits from making Egyptian money available to Egypt. Taking advantage of their exemption from taxation, the foreign banks hastily transfer their profits abroad instead of leaving them in Egypt.

Banks from Arab oil-exporting countries, on which such big hopes had been pinned, began operating on the same terms and with the same methods as their Western partners, the PRAVDA correspondent next says. They joined the international network pumping Egyptian capital abroad.

The capitalist re-orientation of the Egyptian economy, the correspondent says, leads to aggravation of social contradictions notwithstanding all efforts to smoothe them over through "national unity" slogans.

Opposition to the present policy is largely increasing because the mass of the people are being impoverished and the condition of a big proportion of medium sections is deteriorating. The progressive forces call for an end to the parasitical activity of the nouveaux riches, for protection of the interests of the working people in town and countryside, for steps to expand the national economy, to strengthen economic, political independence, to carry through genuine democratisation of the country. These issues now mark the watershed between various political forces and trends in Egypt.

ISRAELI VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED AREAS CONDEMNED

LD101500Y Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 10, TASS--The discussion of violation of human rights in the Israel-occupied Arab territories is going on at the session of the U.N. commission on human rights.

V. Zorin, representative of the USSR, recalled that the U.N. General Assembly recently again condemned Israel's flagrant violations of human rights. Israel seeks to consolidate its hold on the illegally captured Arab lands, driving away the indigenous Arab population and setting up new Israeli settlements.

The Israeli authorities' intentions to virtually eliminate the Arab people of Palestine as a nation is a glaring violation of human rights, the representative of the USSR said. The Government of Israel is guided by Zionist doctrines which are, as it was established by the U.N. General Assembly, of racist nature. It wants to turn the Arab people of Palestine into disunited ethnic groups scattered about in the neighbouring states and doomed to assimilation and dying out. Such actions fall under the notion of genocide.

Representatives of Israel cannot refute the main thing: Their policy of annexation of Arab lands, the refusal, contrary to U.N. resolutions, to withdraw from the occupied territories, the setting up of Israeli settlements there and mass repressions against the Arabs, V. Zorin went on to say. The just struggle by the Arab people of Palestine, of whom the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole legitimate representative and has an observer status at the United Nations Organization, finds support among all progressive forces of the world.

The Soviet Union firmly condemns the flagrant and mass violations of human rights, violations responsibility for which is borne by the Government of Israel, the representative of the USSR emphasized.

Resolution Adopted

LD142210Y Moscow TASS in English 2115 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 14, TASS--The session of the U.N. Human Rights Commission has condemned Israel's actions with regard to the occupied Arab territories.

In a resolution adopted today the commission demanded that Israel immediately stop the annexation of part of the occupied territories, condemned the creation of Israeli militarized settlements in the Arab lands, evictions of Arabs from occupied territories and denial of their right to return. It also condemned the confiscation and expropriation of the property of Arabs in mass arrests, torture of detainees, plunder of valuables, illegal exploitation of the local manpower and natural resources.

The U.N. commission called on Israel to release all Arabs jailed for opposing the Israeli occupiers. It appealed to all the states and international organizations not to recognize the annexationist actions of Israel in Arab territories, to refrain from helping Israel to pursue its policy of annexation and colonisation.

The gross violations by Israel of the Geneva convention on the protection of civilians in wartime, says the resolution, are military crimes and a challenge to humanity.

The commission has ruled to include the question of human rights violations on occupied Arab territories on the agenda of its next, 35th session.

PLO CENTRAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION STRESSES UNITY IN STRUGGLE

LD141525Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 14, TASS--Proceeding from its programme and guided by the decisions of the Palestine National Council, the Palestine Liberation Organization reaffirms its strongly negative attitude to the policy of the Egyptian President as-Sadat and expresses its resolution to continue the struggle for the restoration of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, it is pointed out in the statement adopted at the end of the meeting of the PLO Central Council.

The document stresses that nobody has the right to speak on behalf of the Palestine people, except the PLO, which is its recognized lawful representative. The PLO Central Council resolutely rejects the intrigues of imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East and in Africa, aimed at subjecting the developing countries to the domination of American monopolies. The document specially stresses the need of strengthening and developing all-round cooperation and coordination of actions with the progressive Arab states and with the socialist nations headed by the friendly Soviet Union.

The PLO Central Council, the statement continues, regards as an important task the strengthening of the strategic alliance of the Palestine resistance movement with all the progressive Arab states, primarily with Syria.

Touching on the situation in the Lebanon, the PLO Central Council confirms the need of safeguarding the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of the country.

The document calls for the further rallying of all the detachments of the Palestine resistance movement in order to rebuff the plots, spearheaded against the Palestine revolution.

LD141928Y Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

UN RESOLUTIONS. USSR PROPOSAL KEY TO CYPRUS SOLUTION

LD150909Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Capt First Class V. Pustov article: "In NATO's Sights"]

[Text] Assertions about the so-called "weakness of the southern flank" of NATO are being heard increasingly often in the West recently. In this connection it is stressed in every way that the Greek-Turkish conflict over Cyprus and the Cyprus problem itself are to blame for everything. It is significant that both are seen in NATO in terms of nothing but the "damage" they have inflicted on Atlanticist military might.

It is not particularly difficult to discern in all this propagandist fuss a completely definite goal--that of achieving a solution of the Cyprus question which would suit the Pentagon and NATO strategists and correspond to their aggressive designs. It is no accident that the English journal MIDDLE EAST, for instance, calling Cyprus "the main problem" of the southern flank of the North Atlantic bloc, reports on a totally possible new "NATO peace initiative" aimed at settling it. The journal also does not exclude the more active use by Washington of the "lever of military aid" so as to sway the quarrelling sides--Turkey and Greece--toward compromise. According to reports in the foreign press, the "mediators" from leading NATO countries who have become frequent visitors to Ankara, Athens and Nicosia are acting in the same direction.

Thus it is a question of thinly veiled attempts to remove the Cyprus problem from under the aegis of the United Nations and to bring its solution within the framework of NATO so as to preserve the abnormal situation which has arisen on the island as a result of foreign military interference and one way or another to bring it into the NATO military strategic system.

This is by no means the first year that the Cyprus crisis has disturbed the peoples of the world. As is well known, a series of resolutions was once adopted by the United Nations formulating the principles for a just and stable solution to that problem. They stress, in particular, the inadmissibility of foreign interference in the internal affairs of the Republic of Cyprus.

Only given the strict fulfillment of these resolutions and the convocation under the aegis of the United Nations of a representative international conference on Cyprus as proposed by the Soviet Union can this problem be successfully resolved in the interests both of the Cypriot people themselves and of the whole international community.

The constructive initiative of the Soviet Union was approved and welcomed by Cypriot President S. Kiprianou. The implementation of the Soviet proposal, he said, would promote a just solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of the appropriate UN resolutions, the fulfillment of which will insure the creation of a truly independent Cyprus with territorial integrity.

The Cypriot Government is persistently striving for a just settlement of the Cyprus problem. In this very important cause it relies on the support of the Soviet Union, all the countries of the socialist community and all the planet's peace-loving forces.

TURKISH LEADERS ON U.S., USSR TIES; EASING TENSIONS

Ecevit on U.S., USSR

LD141419Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[A. Akhmedzyanov report: "On the Basis of Trust"]

[Text] Teheran--In the last few years the Soviet Union has convincingly demonstrated a benevolent attitude toward Turkey, Turkish Prime Minister B. Ecevit stated when addressing a press conference for foreign and local journalists.

We attach great importance to improving relations with our neighbours and in particular the Soviet Union, he noted, and are fully determined to continue to develop them in the interests of mutual trust.

At the same press conference B. Ecevit noted the need for Turkey to reexamine the bilateral agreement on military cooperation with the United States signed 2 years ago, as it does not meet changed international relations.

Relations With Border States

LD141522Y Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Ankara, February 14, TASS--"The national security of Turkey cannot be detached from the entire complex of international relations. This is why the government will attach great importance to the development of friendly relations with all the border states on the basis of the principles of mutual confidence. We believe that such a policy meets the interests of peace and promotes national security", said the Turkish prime minister Bulent Ecevit, speaking at a meeting of the Supreme Military Council of the republic.

Turkey, he stressed, while honouring her allied commitments shall see to it that such a course does not arouse any suspicions or mistrust of the neighbouring states.

"The Turkish Government, Ecevit pointed out, deems it incumbent on it to display a sincere and constructive approach in contributing to the general process of easing international tensions."

The Senate was addressed by the foreign minister Gunduz Okcun, who pointed out that the "government of the republic approves of the relaxation course and of the principles set out in the final act of the Helsinki conference". The government, G. Okcun stressed, intends to pursue a peaceful policy based on the principles of Kemal Ataturk, the founder of the Turkish state.

The minister pointed to several problems in relations between Turkey and the "Common Market", which interfere with the economic and industrial development of Turkey. These relations, he stressed, will be revised in conformity with the requirements of Turkey's economic development.

CONTINUING MATERIAL ON HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT

Vance 'Threats Against Ethiopia'

ID141722Y Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 14, TASS--Suffering military defeat in Ogaden, the Somaalian leaders, their Western patrons and the reactionary Arab regimes, backing Somalia, have all of a sudden raised hue and cry about some sort of an Ethiopian "threat of invasion" into Somalia which they themselves have conducted. It is indicative that the patrons of the Somaalian aggressors did not utter a single word at the time when the Somaalian troops had really launched an aggressive war against Ethiopia, as it has been qualified by many states and international organizations, including the Organization of African Unity. Now, on the contrary, these forces do not stop before any falsifications and deliberately spread ill-intended assertions. One such statement was made the other day by the Egyptian president, As-Sadat, who had so far kept mum on the subject. As-Sadat groundlessly declared that he was allegedly "alarmed by the plans of Ethiopian invasion into the territory of Somalia.

The newspaper ETHIOPIAN HERALD gave the lie to the hypocritical stand of the Western imperialist circles and of the reactionary Arab regimes in respect to the conflict in the Horn of Africa. Surprising is the fact, it says, that the leading NATO countries looked on calmly when peaceful Ethiopian civilians perished at the hands of the Somaalian aggressors, but the self-same imperialist powers expressed "concern" over the destinies of peace in the Horn of Africa now that we are beginning to get the upper hand. In reality, the ETHIOPIAN HERALD notes, such a stand, and, in particular, the recent threats against Ethiopia, made by the United States secretary of state, have the purpose of encouraging the aggressive war unleashed by the Somaalian leaders.

Ethiopia, the newspaper stresses, has no territorial claims to other states. However it is absolutely necessary to meet several conditions in order to restore peace in the Horn of Africa. The newspaper formulates these terms in the following way: Complete and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressive Somaalian troops from Ethiopian territory (no ceasefire is possible before that); respect of the internationally recognized borders; proper compensation for the damage caused by the Somaalian aggression; Somalia's renunciation of territorial claims not only to Ethiopia and Kenya but to Djibouti, too.

Touching on the hullabaloo raised by Somalia and its allies about the "possible invasion" of Ethiopian troops into the territory of Somalia, the Kenyan newspaper NAIROBI TIMES says that before shedding tears over such a possibility one should recall who was and who is the aggressor now. It is without doubt nobody but Somalia herself. This country is now exerting desperate efforts to remain in Ethiopian territory. The actions of Somalia contradict the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity and of the United Nations. Ethiopia, the newspaper points out, has the right not only to drive the invaders out of her territory but to draw for this purpose on the outside assistance of any states.

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Addis Ababa--"Ethiopia will never allow anybody to meddle with her affairs, and at the same time she does not wish to interfere in the affairs of others", it has been stated by Debele Dinsa, chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of Addis Ababa. Addressing a mass meeting, he said that the goal of the country's broad popular masses was to build a new society, based on the principles of equality, justice and democracy. The chairman of the revolutionary committee expressed the conviction that the righteous cause of the Ethiopian people would triumph.

Mass demonstrations of protest against the backing by the NATO bloc countries of the aggression, unleashed by the Somalian leaders, are now taking place throughout Ethiopia. Thirty thousand workers, peasants and employees gathered at a meeting in the large port of town of Assaba. They wrathfully condemned the overt and covert role of the NATO countries in supporting the enemies of the Ethiopian revolution, expressed complete resolution to defend with arms in hand the territorial integrity of their homeland. No machinations of the forces of imperialism and of the reactionary Arab regimes will deprive us of the gains of the people's revolution, the speakers stressed at the meeting.

Campaign by West, Arabs

LD141500Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Newspapers of certain Arab countries these days keep carrying reports on developments in the Horn of Africa on their front pages. Radio and television open their newscasts with the same information. They all reiterate one subject, the threat of an alleged Ethiopian invasion of Somalia. Our observer, Georgiy Tanov, comments:

The Ethiopian people and their army are waging a persistent and heroic struggle for the complete liberation of the Ethiopian territory, but to hear Western observers and certain Arab statesmen it is Somalia that is actually falling victim to the aggressor. What we witness is a new stage of the military and political pressure that NATO countries are trying to put at a time when they are failing with a plan to defeat revolutionary Ethiopia with the help of Somalia. The quicker the aggressor's army is rolling back to the border the ruder the ill-camouflaged threats toward Ethiopia are becoming.

For almost 6 months the Western countries and a number of Arab capitals have been watching in silence the expansion of the Somalian crack units on the territory of the neighboring sovereign state. They not only failed to denounce Somalia's aggression but even did not qualify Somalia's action as an act of aggression. It is not secret that throughout that period the five leading NATO countries were developing strategic and operational plans providing for necessary action in the Horn of Africa, the defeat of the occupationist army included. Today this plan has been set into motion, and this explains why no consideration is being given to Ethiopia's repeated statements that she is exercising, in full accordance with the Charters of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, her sovereign right to defend in case of an aggression. Ethiopia makes it clear to everyone that she has no territorial claims to neighboring countries and is ready to solve the conflict by peaceful means if the aggressor withdraws all of its troops from her territory. The present-day hysterical outbursts over a so-called threat of Ethiopia's invasion of Somalia and the latest campaign of anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban slandering in connection with developments in the Horn of Africa--all this looks as another attempt to lay the blame on somebody else, an attempt to distort Ethiopia's just position.

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There is even a more serious aspect to the whole problem: By launching a new round of anti-Ethiopian campaign the West and the allied Arab regimes try to justify their policy of large-scale arms deliveries to Somalia. The latest facts prove that such deliveries have already been started.

Mengistu Press Conference

ID142124Y Moscow TASS in English 2052 GMT 14 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 14, TASS--Revolutionary Ethiopia is fighting for peace, democracy and socialism and we have no other goals besides securing the gains of the people's revolution and guaranteeing the territorial integrity of our state, said Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) of Ethiopia. He was addressing a press conference today at which a large group of foreign and local newsmen were present. Now, the head of the PMAC went on to say, Ethiopia faces the need to repel a full-scale attack undertaken by the forces of internal and external reaction supported by international imperialism. The expansionist circles in Mogadiscio have unleashed aggression against our country backed by the broad moral and material support of the NATO and the reactionary Arab regimes.

We are waging a defensive war whose only aim is to drive out the aggressor from our land. Ethiopia has no territorial claims to the neighbouring states, stressed Mengistu Haile Mariam. We favour friendly relations with all people and countries and strictly adhere to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states. The course to give political and material assistance to the expansionist circles of Mogadiscio pursued by the USA and the other NATO countries, said the PMAC president, tends to foment the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa and is a potential threat to world peace.

Mengistu Haile Marian praised the stand of the socialist community countries on the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa and thanked the socialist countries, notably the Soviet Union and Cuba, as well as all the progressive and peace forces, for their assistance to the Ethiopian revolution. No force in the world is capable of enslaving a revolutionary people, and we are confident of victory over the enemies of our revolution, said the PMAC president.

Propaganda on 'Soviet Interference'

ID141820Y Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 14 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Moscow, February 14, TASS--TASS commentator Yevgeniy Babenko writes: The most diverse voices in the West are conditioning public opinion every day in an attempt to convince it of "Soviet interference" in African affairs, primarily in the area of the Horn of Africa. In France, for instance, some people have gone so far as to claim that Soviet assistance to Ethiopia was "incompatible" with the principles of detente.

Such "logics" mean that all the initial facts related to the conflict which broke out in the Horn of Africa are deliberately made to switch places. It is attempted to present the victim of the Somalian invasion--Ethiopia--as the side that is guilty of the war; the clear-cut policy of the USSR, conforming to principles of international law, is being declared "incompatible" with the detente, and the aggressor itself, namely Somalia, is being whitewashed in every possible way.

In reality the situation is quite different. The Soviet Union has never denied, and does not intend to deny now, that adhering to the principled tenets of its peace-loving foreign policy line, it has sided with the victim of aggression and renders Ethiopia material and technical aid in repulsing the aggression of Somalia, which has occupied a part of Ethiopian territory. The Soviet aid is intended for defensive purposes, is being rendered at the request of the lawful government of Addis Ababa, and, naturally, corresponds in character to the set goal. Western propaganda, obviously, resorts to insinuations when it raises hue and cry about some sort of "Ethiopia's designs to occupy Somalian territory". Generally known are the statements of Ethiopian leaders, denying such slanderous assertions. Quite the opposite: The question is to put an end to the invasion of Somalian troops into Ethiopia.

The USSR comes out for a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia through negotiations on the basis of mutual respect of sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. The unconditional and undelayed withdrawal of Somalian troops from the territory of Ethiopia must be the necessary prerequisite for such a settlement.

The NATO bloc countries are acting in a diametrically opposite direction. They are pursuing a tacit policy of interference in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict, which in a way makes it less active, are providing abundant supplies of modern arms to the aggressor through third countries. A special meeting of representatives of five NATO states--USA, Great Britain, France, FRG and Italy, held in Washington this January, was devoted to the coordination of actions in the Horn of Africa region. A few days ago the American and French newspapers reported that a large consignment of French military material--sixty tanks of the "AMH" type--was sent to Somalia through Saudi Arabia. Paris sells arms or is conducting talks on such sales with many countries simultaneously, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates. Reporting that an agreement was concluded between France and the Ivory Coast Republic this January on deliveries of French weaponry, the newspaper FIGARO points to the special-interest, former parent state to the Ivory Coast Republic and says that France possesses a "strongpoint" in this country from the military point of view.

The list of African states receiving the most diverse military aid from France could be continued. "For a year now," the newspaper L'HUMANITE wrote early this February, the French military are active in Chad, Zaire, Mauritania and western Sahara. It is indicative that in none of these cases can there be any question of defending the territorial integrity of the African states from anybody's threat.

In the light of the adduced facts, and many others could be added to them, it becomes obvious that the clamour, raised by the propaganda machine of the former colonialists around the alleged Soviet "interference" in Africa, was needed merely as a smokescreen, a smokescreen to cover up the unseemly manoeuvres of a group of Western states to fan up the conflict in the Horn of Africa and to turn it into a continental conflagration, manoeuvres which contradict the interests of the African peoples.

Situation in Ogaden

ID150842Y Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 15 Feb 78 ID

["Exposure of Aggressors"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The captured weapons and numerous documents irrefutably prove that regular units of the Somali Army were sent to Ethiopia, Valentin Korovikov, PRAVDA's correspondent, writes from the liberated areas of Ethiopia.

Among the captured arms and equipment and those abandoned by Somalis during retreat, there are whole stacks of boxes with anti-tank mines from the army depots of Saudi Arabia, and cartridges from Belgium and Italy, heavy mortars, anti-aircraft and anti-tank guns which bear the marking of Western countries. Among them are American 127-mm anti-tank guns. Quantities of weapons go to the Somali aggressors from most diverse sources.

Ethiopian units carried out a successful offensive on recent weeks. At present the Somalis have been repulsed a distance of east of Harar. [Sentence as received] Ethiopian units advance from the north and west to Jijiga, the only large city which is still held by the enemy.

The PRAVDA correspondent relates a press-conference which was given by the military and civilian authorities of Ethiopia and which exposed the Somali propaganda inventions spread in the West about "participation" of mythical Cuban and Soviet military units in fighting in the Ogaden. Colonel Mulatu Negash, commander of the military secretariat, stated that there are no Soviet or Cuban military units in Ethiopia. Neither Cuban nor Soviet citizens take part in the fighting. "We get assistance from socialist countries which solidarise with our revolution. In the country there are technical specialists and medical personnel who are helping the defense effort, the economy and health services of Ethiopia but the war against the invaders is being waged by Ethiopian people and their army and by nobody else," he said.

SOUTH AFRICAN 'CENSORSHIP BECOMING TOUGHER'

LD142122Y Moscow TASS in English 2044 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, February 14, TASS--Chief government censor of the Republic of South Africa Pretorius announced that the issuing of altogether 18 students publications was banned last year. He justified the measures of the racist authorities by claiming that the banned publications were allegedly radically subversive and threatened common well-being, peace and tranquility.

In reality the Vorster regime seeks to silence those who express disagreement with the racist policy of apartheid. A number of draconic laws and regulations already operate in the Republic of South Africa. They establish strict censorship and make it possible to suppress publications that do not suit the racist authorities. These laws are constantly becoming tougher and are applied to ever new press bodies. Thus the biggest newspaper for Africans appearing in the Republic of South Africa, the WORLD, and its Sunday supplement were banned last year.

MULTINATIONALS' EFFORT TO EXPAND IN INDIA CITED

LD141245Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[V. Shurygin dispatch: "Right of Priority"]

[Text] Delhi--Recently, Indian public attention has been drawn to the visit to India of a large group of Western, chiefly U.S., businessmen representing 55 transnational monopolies. It was headed by former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman.

During the visit the Western businessmen had meetings with Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai and certain government ministers. The members of the delegation also had talks with Indian financiers.

The transnational monopolies do not conceal their interest in expanding the application of their capital in the Indian economy. They are not only attracted by the presence of raw materials and cheap manpower but also by many highly skilled engineering and technical cadres. The point is that the wages of an Indian engineer or technician are 10 times or lower than those of a worker with the same qualifications in West Europe or the United States.

U.S. transnational monopolies offer Indian private capital the role of a junior partner in operations in "Third World" countries. Incidentally, Indian private firms have already embarked on this. Several hundred industrial projects have now been or are being constructed with their participation in various countries.

However, local political commentators have pointed out that Freeman's mission has not led to any significant results. In an interview for the Indian newspaper ECONOMIC TIMES he complained of a "lack of enthusiasm" on the part of the Indian Government with regard to private foreign capital investments and said that the Indian Government ought to issue an official statement welcoming private foreign investments in the Indian economy.

In accordance with the law governing foreign currency, foreign companies operating in India can hold up to 40 percent of the shares, while the remaining 60 percent must belong to Indians. Firms producing goods for export or using the latest technology in their enterprises are an exception. The Indian Government retains the full right to determine the priorities for capital investments in a particular sector of the country's economy. As the local press has reported, this was confirmed again by the Indian prime minister during his talks with the representatives of transnational corporations.

BRIEFS

INDIAN EDUCATION AGREEMENT--A Soviet delegation led by the Minister of Higher Education, Vyacheslav Yelyutin, has returned to Moscow from Delhi. The minister signed an agreement on broadening cooperation in education. This country is to send to India a group of college teachers and professors and increase enrollment of Indian students at Soviet colleges and universities. [Excerpt] [Moscow in English to South and South-east Asia 1500 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD]

USSR'S ROMANOV LEAVES MOSCOW FOR VIETNAM VISIT

LD141826Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A delegation headed by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast Party Committee, left Moscow today for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the invitation of the Vietnamese friends.

Arrives in Hanoi

LD151134Y Moscow TASS in English 1119 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 15, TASS--A Soviet delegation led by Grigoriy Romanov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, first secretary of the Leningrad Regional Committee of the CPSU, arrived in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam today at the invitation of the Vietnamese friends.

The Soviet delegation were met by Le Van Luong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, secretary of the Hanoi City Committee of the party, Xuan Thuy, secretary of the party's Central Committee, and by other officials.

U.S. NAVAL EXERCISES DESIGNED TO HEIGHTEN INDOCHINA TENSION

LD141143Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[I. Shchedrov report: "Dangerous Maneuvers"]

[Text] Bangkok--Warships and marines of the U.S. 7th Fleet are carrying out large-scale maneuvers in the eastern part of the Gulf of Thailand near the Indochinese Peninsula. Local newspapers report, quoting the U.S. command, plans to land an assault force in an area along the 200 km zone from the city of Chon Buri to Rayong not far from the Thai-Cambodian border.

The large air and naval bases at Sattahip and Utapao have been chosen as the center of this mass landing by the U.S. assault force. These bases were abandoned by U.S. troops only under public pressure in the summer of 1976 and at the demand of the Thai Government. From these bases U.S. aircraft flew massive attacks on cities and villages in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia during Washington's Indochinese adventure. They also served as bases for the U.S. 7th Fleet.

U.S.-British maneuvers in the South China sea, which borders Indochina's eastern seaboard, have also been announced. They are planned for mid-February. Over 200 warships, not only from the U.S. 7th Fleet, but also from the British Navy will take part in the 7-day naval "exercises."

The Southeast Asian press and public are following with alarm the sudden activity of the U.S. armed Forces in the region where the border conflict between Vietnam and Cambodia is continuing.

The show of U.S. military strength close to Vietnam and Cambodia is regarded by local commentators as an attempt at exacerbating the situation in this region. [paragraph continues]

This is precisely how people here have assessed the recent statement by Z. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's assistant for National Security Affairs, who described the Vietnamese-Cambodian conflict as a "very interesting event." Attention is also drawn by several statements of other U.S. officials to the effect that the United States "intends to retain its military presence in Southeast Asia."

SRV PEACE PROPOSAL, CONTINUED CAMBODIA" ATTACKS CITED

LD141229Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 7, 10 Feb 78 pp 12-13 LD

[Unattributed article: "On the Vietnamese-Cambodian Border"]

[Text] On 5 February the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] Government published a statement on relations between Vietnam and Cambodia which again suggested specific proposals aimed at resolving the border issue as soon as possible. The SRV Government is calling for an immediate end to all military operations in the border areas and the withdrawal of each side's armed forces to 5 km from the border. The statement also contains a proposal for the immediate organization of a meeting in Hanoi or Phnom Penh or elsewhere on the border between the two countries for negotiations and the signing of a treaty containing agreements to respect one another's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. It is on the same basis that Socialist Vietnam's Government is proposing that a border treaty be signed acknowledging existing borders and that accords be reached on appropriate forms of international guarantees and international control.

As is well known, Vietnam has already made an appeal to Cambodia to embark immediately on negotiations to settle the border issue at any level and anywhere. However, Cambodia has failed to respond positively to this proposal which is full of good will. The Cambodian side, a "Voice of Vietnam" commentary has noted, has proposed preliminary conditions based on fabricated accusations against the SRV. These include the thesis that "Vietnam must not make Cambodia enter an Indochinese federation." This is an astonishing fantasy, the commentary stressed. The Cambodian side is ascribing to Vietnam something which it has never dreamed. Everybody knows that Vietnam's policy in relation to its two neighboring countries--Laos and Cambodia--remains unchanged. Its aim is to strengthen militant solidarity, trust, cooperation and mutual aid on the basis of the principles of complete equality and respect for one another's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

By refusing talks, as VNA notes, Cambodia's leadership is striving to kindle national enmity between the two countries' peoples. Following premeditated plans, it is deliberately organizing armed incursions into Vietnam's territory. This is proved by various documents captured by Vietnam's Armed Forces when repelling the attacks of Cambodian troops and also by evidence from Cambodian prisoners.

"Before implementing its military plans against Vietnam," In Chant Hcn, deputy commander of a battalion in the Cambodian 3d Division, has testified, "the party leadership taught me and my soldiers that Vietnam was our mortal enemy, the number one enemy which we must annihilate."

"Cambodia's leadership had secretly prepared a plan for a surprise attack on Xa Mat in the Vietnamese province of Tay Ninh," soldier Siem Savin declared. "My subunit was ordered to surround Vietnamese border post 27 while the others were given the task of destroying villages... entire hamlets were burned down...."

VNA reports that on 21 January four battalions of Cambodian soldiers captured the towns of (Chat Tuyen), (Cha Pho), (Rat Co) and (Mieu Ba) in Kien Giang Province, 8 km from the border. On 23 January the Cambodian troops occupied seven other Vietnamese towns.

In the last part of January, Cambodia repeatedly sent armed groups on reconnaissance operations in various regions of the southeastern provinces of Tay Ninh and Song Be. In Tay Ninh Province on 27 January Cambodian subunits lost 200 soldiers killed or wounded and a large variety of weapons during their incursion. On 31 January the suburbs of the administrative center of Tay Ninh Province, 90 km north of Ho Chi Minh City, were shelled from Cambodian territory; 30 peaceful inhabitants were killed or wounded. On 30 January the city of Chau Doc, the administrative center of An Giang Province, was shelled by heavy guns. The same day Cambodian warships fired on Vietnamese fishing boats in the Gulf of Thailand near the port of Ha Tien. Cambodian artillery has also shelled border areas of the Vietnamese provinces of Gia, Lai, Kontum and Dao Lac on the central plateau.

Despite the tense situation in border areas of Vietnam, the local population is still engaged in peaceful labor. For instance, more than 2,300 mutual aid groups and production collectives uniting more than 126,000 working people have been created in Tay Ninh Province. Sowing work is now being carried out in the southeastern provinces along the border with Cambodia and rice has now been planted on a large area.

SOVIET PEACE COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT ON BORDER CONFLICT

LD141446Y Moscow TASS in English 1434 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 14, TASS--The Soviet Peace Committee has issued a statement which says that the Soviet peace champions watch with concern the present alarming situation in the border of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Democratic Kampuchea.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam suggested many times that representatives of the two countries should hold a meeting to settle the border issue in the spirit of friendship. But the Kampuchean authorities, refusing to hold talks, stepped up armed provocations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. In this connection, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam made on February 5, 1978, an important statement containing new constructive proposals for solving the border conflict in a peaceful way. These proposals receive wide response and support of the peace-loving international public.

The Soviet peace champions approve and support the peace proposals of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Being deeply interested that peace and friendship should reign in Indochina, the public of the Soviet Union wishes that the border conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea should be settled as soon as possible.

USSR TO SEEK STIFF LIMITS ON JAPANESE SALMON FISHING

OW131323Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1243 GMT 13 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, Feb 13 KYODO--The Soviet Union is expected to seek at the coming fishery talks, a total ban on Japan's catch of salmon in the northern high seas in future, informed sources said Monday.

Japan-Soviet negotiations will be under way here Wednesday for conclusion of a mutual fishery cooperation agreement regulating fishery operations outside their 200-mile waters.

The sources said Moscow wanted to clamp down tougher restrictions on Japan's salmon catch in the high seas on the theory that salmon spawned in Soviet rivers belong to the Soviet Union.

Other coastal nations, including the United States and Canada, support the theory, the sources said.

Japan, which is catching 65,000 tons of salmon in the northern sea at present, is expected to strongly oppose the Soviet move.

The sources said Moscow wanted to at least draw Japan's recognition of the Soviet right on salmon for eventual tougher restrictions on Japanese haul in the future.

S. KOREAN MINISTER'S JAPAN VISIT DENOTES MILITARIZATION

LD141500Y Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, February 14, TASS--Pak Tong-chin, the foreign minister of the South Korea regime, arrived here on Monday for a new visit. He is also to visit a number of West European countries and the United States. As is reported by the local press, the Seoul minister is to discuss with Japanese officials economic ties between South Korea and Japan as well as various aspects of expansion of Japanese-South Korean military cooperation in the Far East and South-east Asia.

Links between Tokyo and Seoul have been strengthened considerably of late. The Japanese Government regards support to the Pak Chong-hui regime as one of the keystones of its foreign policy. During the past ten years, Japan rendered South Korea economic aid valued at over three billion dollars. Most of this aid was used to strengthen the armed forces of the dictatorial regime.

Japanese and American strategists believe that the West's "defence line" runs through South Korea and that therefore the Seoul regime should serve as "the main stronghold" of the West in its strategy in the Far East. Hence, the generosity with which Tokyo, as well as Washington, supply Pak Chong-hui with everything necessary for building up South Korea's military potential.

Now Seoul wants Japan to give it about 2 billion dollars in loans and credits in order to carry out its new "economic development plan" for 1977-1981, a plan which represents a basis for the further militarization of South Korea.

Already at this stage Tokyo and Seoul are closely cooperating in the military field. The Japanese Government shows great interest in South Korea and in the military problems of the whole region in connection with promises by the United States to withdraw a part of its ground forces from South Korea within the next five years. Japanese military representatives see this as a suitable opportunity for establishing a Tokyo-Seoul-Washington military axis. Such plans can only increase tension in the area and are at variance with the general process of relaxation of international tension.

CUBAN CULTURE MINISTER SEEKS FURTHER TIES WITH USSR

LD101745Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 1 LD

[UZTAG report: "Conversation in the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee]

[Text] Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Cuban Communist Party [PCC] Central Committee Politburo and Cuban minister of culture, was a guest in Uzbekistan for a few days. He and those accompanying him visited Samarkand and Navoy, saw the sights of Tashkent and met the republic's cultural figures.

On 30 January Armando Hart Davalos and other Cuban guests were received by Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee.

In a friendly conversation the guests were familiarized with the republic's successes in economic and cultural development, the implementation of the decisions of the 25th party congress by the Uzbekistan party organization, the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) plenum and goals which the republic's workers have projected in the third year of the 5-year plan.

Sh.R. Rashidov stressed that the workers, kolkhoz members and working intelligentsia of Uzbekistan, as indeed all Soviet people, are nourished by the feeling of sincere friendship with the courageous freedom-loving Cuban people and wish them further successes in socialist building. The republican working people see their most important task in helping to strengthen Soviet-Cuban friendship as much as possible and in ceaselessly increasing their contribution to economic and cultural cooperation between USSR and Cuba.

Armando Hart Davalos expressed his sincere gratitude for the heartfelt reception given to him and his comrades in Uzbekistan. He spoke of the socialist reforms on the Island of Freedom and the major measures for further raising the cultural level of the people carried out by the PCC Central Committee and the Government of the republic and noted the tremendous value of the program to further development of business contacts between cultural representatives and organizations of the USSR and Cuba.

Participating in the conversation were: A. U. Salimov, secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee; V. I. Popov, USSR deputy minister of culture; M. T. Tursunov, deputy chairman of the Uzbekistan Council of Ministers; U. A. Rustamov, chief of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Department; and G. N. Nadzhimov, cultural minister of the republic.

UKRAINIAN ENGINEERS MOBILIZE TO OVERCOME STORM DAMAGE

LD141609Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Text] For several days in succession the wind attempted to make the Azov Sea overflow as it blew in gusts of up to 35 meters per second, raised waves many meters high and dashed them frenziedly against the shore, but the ice here had erected its bastions which the water could not overcome.

In the region of Kirillovka the ice hummocks rose in a wall up to 10-15 meters high protecting the nearby recreation areas from the sea's rollers. But while element fought element here and no victors emerged, on the boundless expanses of steppe in the south of the oblast the wind and ice attacked first of all the power lines. Here are extracts from the situation report of the oblast power network enterprise: "Ten 35-kilovolt and 420 10-kilovolt substations have been turned off and dozens of population centers have been without electricity."

The wind knocked down hundreds of poles and deprived 60 population centers of light. Power engineers and kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Primorskiy, Akimovski, Priazvoskiy and other rayons in the oblast fought the elements for 3 days during the storm on ice-covered ground under heavy snowfall which turned the roads into a real skating rink. At the first alarm call a mechanized column under the leadership of N. Smokovskiy left Vasilyevsk. Poles, cross-beams and telescope towers [teleskopicheskiye vyshki] were delivered to the area of devastation on heavy Kraz and Maz trucks. The "Dneproenergo" production and power association mustered all its resources. Teams left Dnepropetrovsk and Krivoy Rog and equipment and towers were delivered. The Novomoskovsk, Svetlovodsk and Ternopol ferroconcrete post plant supplied 15 carload of posts.

The high degree of organization, good material and technical backup and timely aid rendered by many organizations made it possible to eliminate the consequences of the storm rapidly and efficiently. Normal life is now being resumed in the farms.

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